

The \$160,000 question

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Wee bit o' fun

City Pulse's St. Patrick's Day event guide, p. 15



Artistic activism

Broad exhibit challenges traditions, p. 8



CityPULSE

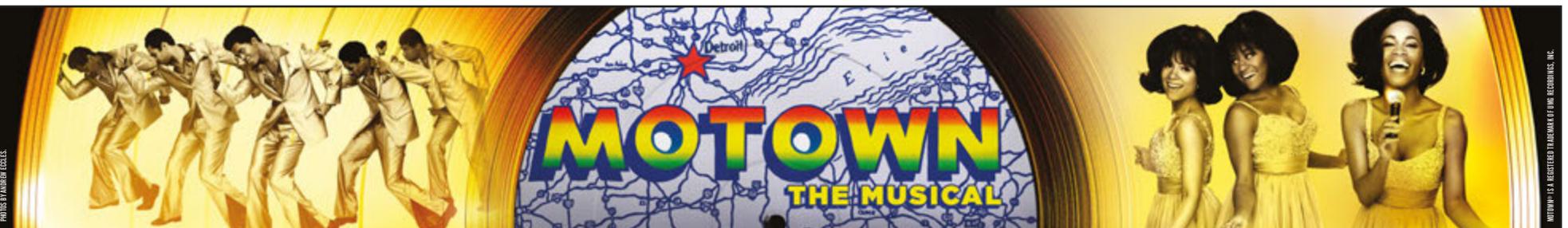
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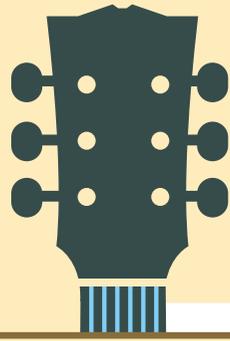
March 9-15, 2016



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"Slainte!" by JONATHAN GRIFFITH

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THIS MODERN WORLD
by TOM TOMORROW

TRUMP MANIA
CRAZY IS THE NEW NORMAL

VETTING THE CANDIDATE
HE'S A CELEBRITY WHO WILL MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!
WHAT FURTHER QUALIFICATION COULD HE POSSIBLY NEED?

A SURPRISE ENDORSEMENT
DONALD TRUMP IS THE KINDEST, WARMEST, BRAVEST, MOST WONDERFUL HUMAN BEING I'VE EVER KNOWN.
I TOTALLY BELIEVE THESE THINGS I AM SAYING.

ELEVATED DISCOURSE
DONALD HAS TINY HANDS! BY WHICH I MEAN A SMALL PENIS!
WHAT IF HE'S IN A LOCKER ROOM WITH PUTIN SOMEDAY?
LIAR! IT'S YUUUGE!

THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM
"RACISM"? I'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD THIS WORD BEFORE!
I'LL NEED SOME TIME TO RESEARCH THE MATTER BEFORE I CAN COMMENT!

DENIAL'S NOT A RIVER
TRUMP'S POPULARITY IS DEFINITELY NOT THE RESULT OF DECADES OF REPUBLICAN DOG-WHISTLE POLITICS!
I BLAME OBAMA, FOR REASONS I WILL EXPLAIN AS SOON AS I THINK OF THEM.

SERIOUSLY, NOT A RIVER
DEMOCRATS WILL BEAT HIM EASILY-- ONCE WE POINT OUT TO VOTERS THAT HE IS A BOORISH, RACE-BAITING NARCISSIST!
THEY MIGHT NOT HAVE NOTICED!

MEN OF GREAT PRINCIPLE
DONALD TRUMP IS A DANGEROUS LUNATIC WHO MUST BE STOPPED!
UNLESS HE WINS THE NOMINATION, IN WHICH CASE WE PLEDGE TO SUPPORT HIM.

THE UNKNOWABLE FUTURE
WOW, NO ONE COULD HAVE FORESEEN HOW THIS ELECTION WOULD TURN OUT! AND NOW IT'S IN THE HANDS OF THE SUPREME COURT!
THE EIGHT-MEMBER SUPREME COURT!
THAT'S THE ONE!
Action McNews Network

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Correction

Have something to say about a local issue or an item that appeared in our pages?

Now you have two ways to sound off:

- 1.) Write a letter to the editor.
 - E-mail: letters@lansingcitypulse.com
 - Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
 - Fax: (517) 371-5800

- 2.) Write a guest column: Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or (517) 999-5061

(Please include your name, address and telephone number so we can reach you. Keep letters to 250 words or fewer. City Pulse reserves the right to edit letters and columns.)

Due to reporting errors, last week's New in Town column contained several mistakes. Kellie's Consignments is not closing during its move and does not sell bridal/wedding apparel. The article also misstated the new store's square footage, which is 24,000 square feet, and the age of the business, which is 10 years old.

Notice is hereby given to the owners, lienholders, and other interested parties that the following described abandoned vehicles will be sold at auction for cash to the highest bidder at 12:30 pm, March 29, 2016 at 6615 Mobile Hwy Pensacola, FL 32526: 1991 Jeep Cherokee 1J4FJ87S5ML608933. Seller reserves the right to reject any bid and the right to bid. CP#16-068

PUBLIC NOTICES

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Sealed proposals will be received by the City of East Lansing at the Office of the Director of Public Works, up to 11:00 A.M., Tuesday, April 19, 2016, at which time and place proposals will be publicly opened and read for the furnishing of materials, labor and equipment for an unspecified quantity of miscellaneous concrete work in the City of East Lansing. Proposals may either be mailed to the Director of Public Works at 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 or hand delivered to the Office of the Director of Public Works located at 1800 E. State Road, East Lansing, Michigan.

The Contract Documents, including Specifications, Plans and Bidding Forms may be obtained at the Director of Public Works' Office, located at 1800 E. State Road, East Lansing, Michigan, by paying a Twenty-Five Dollar (\$25.00) non-refundable preparation fee.

The City will apply its Local Purchasing Preference Policy, Policy Resolution 2009-3, in making the award of this contract.

Prevailing wages are not required for this project.

The City of East Lansing reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive defects in proposals, and to make the award in its own best interest.

CITY OF EAST LANSING
By: Marie Wicks
City Clerk

CP#16-071

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The Contract Documents, including Specifications, Plans and Bidding Forms may be obtained at the Director of Public Works' Office, located at 1800 E. State Road, East Lansing, Michigan, by paying a Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) non-refundable preparation fee.

Proposals must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond payable to the City of East Lansing, in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the bid amount, which shall be forfeited to the City of East Lansing if the bidder to whom the Contract is awarded fails to enter into a Contract within ten (10) days after the Contract is awarded. The unsuccessful bidders' checks or bid bonds will be returned upon final award of Contract, approved and executed.

Prevailing wages are required for this project.

The City of East Lansing reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive defects in proposals, and to make the award in its own best interest.

CITY OF EAST LANSING
By: Marie Wicks
City Clerk

CP#16-072

Another big payout With McIntyre's resignation comes a \$160,663 check from Lansing

In mid-Michigan there's no better place to be hired and fail than Lansing.

The city announced last week that it would pay its attorney \$160,662.79 to just go away. Janene McIntyre, who was hired in March 2013, had in fact been absent since early January.



MICKEY HIRTEN

She returned to work last week and for at least a few days seemed ready to work. It fooled at least some City Council members, who it turns out were suckered by McIntyre and Mayor Virg Bernero. She was back to clean out her office, get the pictures off the wall. Her termination agreement had been signed on Feb. 25.

What it all means for taxpayers is another hefty payout for a highly compensated official, a practice that's been standard operating procedure at the city-owned Board of Water & Light. In 2002, it paid General Manager Joe Pandey \$730,000 to settle his departure. His replacement, Sandy Novak, got \$375,000 in 2006 when the utility tired of his services. And, of course, there is the \$650,000 settlement for J. Peter Lark, after the board bungled a failed bid to terminate him "with cause."

I'll do the math. That's \$1.75 million for the city to escape from bad hires.

Considering the money wasted by the BWL, the \$160,663 payout covering salary and assorted benefits offered by Bernero is by city standards chump change.

McIntyre was given severance pay last week as she exited City Hall, Bernero said on Sunday. All that's left for the Council is to approve a new city attorney. And since that job serves both the mayor and the Council, withholding approval to protest McIntyre's golden parachute isn't really an option.

As often happens in City Hall, McIntyre's departure is fodder for political posturing. Council President Judi Brown Clarke said she learned of McIntyre's departure the way most in the city did — through the media. As of Sunday, she said, she still had not spoken directly with Bernero. In consultation with other Council members, she has delayed until March 21 considering the appointment of Deputy City Attorney F. Joseph Abood, Bernero's choice for a McIntyre replacement, as the interim city attorney. She questioned why the Mayor's Office didn't inform Council members of its intentions.

A week ago Monday, McIntyre attended a meeting with Council members. Did any of them ask her about her mysterious leave? No.

Did any of them request an executive session to deal with what might be sensitive personal matters? No.

Have any of them talked with McIntyre away from formal sessions? Some tried.

It was difficult, said Brown Clarke, because McIntyre's absence from City Hall was covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act, which provides significant privacy to the individual. Brown Clarke said she made some overtures toward McIntyre but received no responses.

Last week, when McIntyre was again working in City Hall, Brown Clarke said she and McIntyre had scheduled a meeting on Tuesday. But it didn't happen. She said she

continued to reach out to McIntyre but without success.

Council Vice President Jessica Yorke too wanted to speak with McIntyre and based on Monday's sham appearance felt there would be time in coming weeks.

Bernero has not offered any explanation for McIntyre's departure. But it is well established that the relationship between at least some department heads in the Bernero Administration and its attorney have been troubled for a while.

The City Attorney's Office was viewed as a choke point for actions as basic as hiring new employees. This was particularly apparent after Bernero made McIntyre the interim head of the city's Human Resources department in September 2014. The promotion included a \$40,800 raise, making her by far the city's highest paid employee. Bernero makes \$128,000 a year.



Bernero



McIntyre

The city has since hired a Human Resources director. Freed of this responsibility, the city wanted to return McIntyre's pay to the \$110,000 a year city attorney level. Coincidence perhaps, but it was just after the city's new HR director, Mary Riley, started in January that McIntyre facing a \$40,800 cut in pay — and less responsibility — put herself on extended leave.

There was another issue that suggested problems in the City Attorney's Office: \$158,000 in unpaid legal bills to outside law firms. City Auditor Jim DeLine, who works for the Council, uncovered dozens of unpaid and overdue bills during a series of audits last year. McIntyre, according to a report in the Lansing State Journal, attributed the delay to a need for more documentation to complete the review process. Bernero at the time vigorously defended McIntyre.

McIntyre, contacted through her attorney, declined to respond to questions about her departure or the \$160,663 settlement.

The usual, and often disingenuous, explanation for a substantial payout like the one proposed for McIntyre is the desire to avoid contentious and expensive litigation. The separation agreement signed by McIntyre and Bernero, prevents her from profiting from legal actions against the city. Call it insurance. It's not unreasonable to believe that McIntyre, out of work and angry, could harass the city with frivolous and costly lawsuits.

Behind the story

Was the McIntyre settlement motivated by a threat?



BERL SCHWARTZ

As speculation swirls around why Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero agreed to a settlement with former City Attorney Janene McIntyre, one story line is if he had not, she would have sued the city for sexual harassment.

City Pulse published a web story on Feb. 19 that McIntyre was considering suing the city for sexual harassment. That story was based on two sources, neither of whom wanted to be identified.

After the story appeared, McIntyre's attorney, Jamie White, called me to complain about an inaccuracy in the story, which was that we had reported McIntyre had been placed on leave when the leave was voluntarily. We'd already corrected the story, but White apparently did not know this.

White did not ask for our conversation to be off the record — and then went on to out himself as one of our reporter's sources. Angry about the story's error, he said he would not longer corroborate what he had confirmed earlier, which was that McIntyre was considering a sexual harassment suit. I even offered to go off the record to try to understand his position. He declined, saying he no longer trusted City Pulse on any basis.

White also called the story "premature" — not wrong, just apparently inconvenient to his legal strategy.. At least, that's how I took it.

The next morning, Bernero called me. Calmly, he volunteered that sexual harassment had not been raised in talks with McIntyre. Then, asking to go off the record, he gave a different explanation.

With the primary source no longer willing to corroborate a possible sexual harassment suit and the mayor offering a different explanation, I pulled down the web story. It was replaced with a straightforward report that McIntyre was on leave without explanation.

The new story carried a note that said City Pulse had incorrectly reported earlier that McIntyre was considering a sexual harassment lawsuit. That note went too far, since the original sources had not recanted. I only learned of the wording when I read it online and considered writing something to, in essence, correct our correction. However, I decided not to, thinking that story was snakebit and opting to leave well enough alone.

I write this column today more than a bit torn. It's no small thing to raise the specter of sexual harassment. But given that the city has not been forthcoming about her status and has agreed to a large settlement without explanation, and given the possibility that a dire threat of sexual harassment CLAIMS, no matter how unfair it might be, could certainly motivate such an unexplained agreement, I believe Lansing residents have the right to know what we know and can report without violating confidences. What really happened to cause McIntyre to leave, I don't know. But I do know that that taxpayers will pay for it. It's our money and we're due an explanation. Perhaps reporting what we were told will help get us that.



Parks and misery

A trail of tears the River Trail degrades

Just west of Elm Street, the city of Lansing's River Trail pathway is crumbling. About half of the pavement is gone, undermined by water from the river and run-off, says Parks and Recreation Director Brett Kaschinske. The area has been blocked off with bright orange cones.

Farther north, the stairway from Michigan Avenue to the River Trail by the Lansing Center is closed. The steel support beams are so degraded that last year a consultant for the county warned that it could collapse during use.

And four blocks north of there, the trail under Oakland Avenue is so dangerous that it's been closed since last fall. Consultants said Monday night that it is in such bad

shape, if it were open it would have to be inspected "every couple of days" in order to make sure people using it were safe.

These sections of the trail and other desperately need rehabilitation, Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero and Kachinske said this week. But to do that, the city needs funds.

A letter from Bernero submitted to the Ingham County Trails and Parks Task Force Monday night identifies critically needed repairs at four locations. The city said repairs on the Elm Street section, a section further south from Elm and the Oakland underpass would cost more than \$700,000. It offered no estimate for fixing the Lansing Center portion of the trail.

Bernero wants county officials to free up millions of dollars collected through the special trail and park millage so that the city can begin making improvements. The millage was approved in 2014 and over its six-year lifespan is expected to net the county about

\$20 million, Ingham County Trails and Parks Task Force Chairwoman Teri Banas said.

The county collected \$3.35 million last year and expects another another \$3.41 million this year. A contract with Ohio-based Mannik Smith Group for \$73,514 is the only expense incurred under millage monies so far.

The contract paid the group to conduct a trailways inventory, as well as evaluate the condition of the counties various trails. The consulting contract also sought input into where best to develop new trailways in the county.

The report found that 84 areas of paved pathways in various county trailways systems needed immediate repair. It also found that 20 bridges in the system were in some stage of disrepair. The cost alone for all the bridge upgrades is estimated at \$20 million.

Many of those areas in need of repair are on Lansing's 20-mile long River Trail. Bernero said the process to figure out how to divvy up the millage pie has taken too long. "The Marshall Plan to rebuild Europe was put together in less time," he said.

That Mannik Smith Group report is still not finalized, and the county is seeking additional information. The full Board of Commissioners expects to approve a finalized plan this month.

The millage was originally opposed by the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce. The reason? There was no comprehensive plan on how and where to spend the money raised.

Those issues still concern for the business advocacy group. In a memo sent to commissioners last week, Steve Japinga, director of government relations at the chamber, hammered county officials for the delays.

"As we enter year two of the tax capture ([roughly] \$7 million collected from taxpayers as of today), it is clear that commissioners are still divided on how the dollars should be allocated," Japinga wrote. "Yes, we understand that the County Board of Commissioners established a task force, hosted town halls, conducted surveys and even contracted with a consulting firm that has provided a list of areas that the millage dollars could address immediately. However, our initial concerns have proved true, as today we are still awaiting action from this task force."

On Monday night, the task force forwarded a resolution to the full commission for action which would turn the cash spigot on.

Under the resolution, the county would



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

The northern access point to the River Trail's path under Oakland Avenue. The section has been closed off because consultants for the county have determined it is serious disrepair.

free up just over \$6 million for use. It provides \$200,000 to the county to use as a match to leverage additional government and private grants for projects in two county parks.

The plan calls for spending \$173,514 to pay for support of the county parks through various improvements including upgrading bathrooms and purchasing needed equipment. The allocation includes payment for Mannik Smith Group.

Also, the resolution would provide \$1 million for trail repair and rehabilitation, \$4.5 million for bridge replacement and \$338,342 for county park upkeep and maintenance.

Task Force members approved a grant application for communities as well and are hoping to push the full process through the commission before a self-imposed deadline of April 1. That's when the county would like to begin accepting applications for the funding from local governments.

They would close that application process — designed for the most critical need infrastructure problems identified by consultants — June 1. Final approval of spending would require approval of the Board of Commissioners.

The hitch? Municipalities will have to spend the money they are seeking from their own budgets and then be reimbursed by the county.

That could be an issue for Lansing, said Kaschinske.

"We do not [have the money]," he said. "We did not include this in our budget proposal we put in."

Commissioners interviewed after the

See River Trail, Page 7

PUBLIC NOTICES

Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy Attention: Food Service Vended Meal Companies

The Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy is requesting proposals for school food service vended meals. The Vendor would provide meal services according to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations and guidelines as well as State of Michigan Department of Education policies and guidelines.

Vendors and/or their representatives may submit proposals to:

Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy
c/o Ingham Intermediate School District
Attn: Purchasing Department
2630 W. Howell Rd.
Mason, MI 48854

The Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all proposals or to accept the proposal that it finds, in its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the school district.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting is scheduled for **March 21, 2016, at 1:30 p.m. at 730 W. Maple St., Lansing, MI 48906.** Attendance is mandatory.

All proposals must be submitted no later than **9:00 a.m. on April 26, 2016.** All proposals should be delivered in a sealed envelope and addressed to the **Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy** and be clearly marked: Food Service Vended Meal Proposal.

CP#16-069

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FY 16-17 SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

CITY OF EAST LANSING
410 ABBOT ROAD
EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN 48823

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of East Lansing at the Office of the Director of Public Works, up to 11:00 A. M., Tuesday, April 12, 2016, at which time and place proposals will be publicly opened and read for the furnishing of materials, labor and equipment for reconstruction of sidewalks and ramps in the area generally bounded by Abbot Road to the east, Grand River Avenue to the south, Fern Street to the north and Hillcrest Avenue to the west in the City of East Lansing. Proposals may either be mailed to the Director of Public Works at 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 or hand delivered to the Office of the Director of Public Works located at 1800 E. State Road, East Lansing, Michigan.

The Contract Documents, including Specifications, Plans and Bidding Forms may be obtained at the Director of Public Works' Office, located at 1800 E. State Road, East Lansing, Michigan, by paying a Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) non-refundable preparation fee.

Proposals must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond payable to the City of East Lansing, in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the bid amount, which shall be forfeited to the City of East Lansing if the bidder to whom the Contract is awarded fails to enter into a Contract within ten (10) days after the Contract is awarded. The unsuccessful bidders' checks or bid bonds will be returned upon final award of Contract, approved and executed.

The City will apply its Local Purchasing Preference Policy, Policy Resolution 2009-3, in making the award of this contract.

Prevailing wages are not required for this project.

The City of East Lansing reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive defects in proposals, and to make the award in its own best interest.

CITY OF EAST LANSING
By: Marie Wicks
City Clerk

CP#16-070

PUBLIC NOTICES

RFQP/16/047 UNIFORM RENTAL AND LEASE PROGRAM as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. Proposals will be accepted at the CITY OF LANSING PURCHASING OFFICE, 1232 HACO DR, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912 until **3:00 PM** local time in effect on **MARCH 22, 2016** at which time proposals will be opened. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit proposals are available by calling Stephanie Robinson, CPPB at (517) 702-6197, or email: slr@lbwl.com, or go to www.mitn.info.** The City of Lansing encourages proposals from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#16-067

RFP/16/082 SALE OF SCOTT HOUSE as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. Proposals will be accepted at the CITY OF LANSING PURCHASING OFFICE, 1232 HACO DR, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912 until **3:00 PM** local time in effect on **MARCH 15, 2016** at which time proposals will be opened. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit proposals are available by calling Stephanie Robinson, CPPB at (517) 702-6197, or email: slr@lbwl.com, or go to www.mitn.info.** The City of Lansing encourages proposals from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#16-066

Vinyl siding for the Capitol

Preservationists fear Republican bill would dismantle 78 historic districts

A bill sponsored by Republicans in the Legislature has the state's preservation community on red alert over the fate of Michigan's 78 historic districts, even after changes were introduced at a Feb. 24 hearing.

The bill adds more procedural hurdles to the establishment of a historic district and makes it optional, instead of mandatory, to follow federal guidelines for historic structures, among other changes.

Both Nathalie Winans, who chairs Lansing's Historic District Commission, and Amanda Harrell-Seyburn, who chairs East Lansing's counterpart, said the bills would "dismantle" historic districts, statewide.

"We're still advocating to kill this bill," said Nancy Finegood, director of the Michigan Historic Preservation Network.

State Rep. Chris Afendoulis introduced the bill in the House Jan. 26. Sen. Peter MacGregor introduced an identical bill in the state Senate. Both represent Grand Rapids districts, where opponents of a historic district in the affluent suburb of East Grand Rapids include Kent County Republican Chairman John Inhulsen and Meijer Inc. co-CEO Mark Murray.

Afendoulis didn't return calls. Leah Maher, MacGregor's legislative director, said the bill is meant to "modernize" the 46-year-old law.

"The intention is to come up with a piece of legislation that returns a greater amount of local control," Maher said.

She said the bill is still being "negotiated" and hasn't made it out of the House's Local Government Committee yet.

Gov. Rick Snyder has not signaled whether he would sign the bill if it is passed. Snyder and his wife, Sue, moved into a condo in the Main Street historic district in downtown Ann Arbor last year.

"There's this hysteria that [the bill is] getting shoved through, and that's not true,"

Maier said.

Both Afendoulis and MacGregor met with several "interested parties," Maier said, and the second draft reflects those discussions.

"There will probably be more changes in committee," Maier said.

Preservationists have a long list of objections to the bill.

Finegood said it would take away a crucial tool used to save historic buildings threatened by demolition. Under the current law, city officials can stay a demolition for six months while a committee is formed to consider creating a historic district. The revised bill would require two-thirds approval, by petition, of the property owners in a proposed historic district, before local officials can form the committee. By that time, Finegood said, developers can squash a historic church or home into a parking lot.

Preservationists also say the proposed bill would undermine historic preservation standards. Under the bill, historic commissions could ignore the U.S. Interior Dept. guidelines for historic preservation if they find "that a different standard is in the best interests of the community."

"That just means, 'Do whatever you want,'" Finegood said.

"It's easy for historic districts to decline in value and quality, slowly, piece by piece, one layer of vinyl siding or one crappy door from Wal-Mart at a time," Winans said.

Lansing has 10 historic districts, but eight of them are single buildings and one consists of two homes — far fewer than other large Michigan cities such as Grand Rapids, with six districts covering about 2,500 properties, or Kalamazoo, with five districts covering about 2,075 properties.

Councilwoman Jessica Yorke's Fourth Ward includes the only historic district in Lansing that has more than two buildings, Cherry Hill, which has about 30 homes more than 100 years old.

Yorke said it's hard enough already to form a historic district. "Even if everyone wants to have it, it's a lot of paperwork, a lot of steps," she said.

While the proposed changes in the law

balkanized one," Bernero wrote in his letter. "We need to work together and address this process with the theory that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts."

He supports using the millage funds in other communities — but said the need in Lansing is urgent. He specifically noted that the Lansing River Trail was in the millage approved by voters, which he believes means the money should be available immediately for the trail.

"Fifty percent of the people who use it are not from Lansing," he said. He sees it as a regional asset, like Potter Park Zoo and believes that regional funding mechanism has worked out well.

— Todd Heywood

River Trail

from page 6

meeting Monday said the reimbursement scheme would help keep communities accountable for the funding and how it is spent.

Banas and Jared Cypher, Ingham County's deputy controller, said the county "would work with" Lansing and other municipalities to overcome those potential financial obstacles.

Bernero, however, said he opposes the approach to allocating the funding. He called it "competitive and divisive" in an interview and in a letter to county officials.

"We need a competitive and cooperative approach instead of a fragmented and

would have less impact in Lansing than in cities with extensive network of historic districts, the capital offers an object lesson in what might happen if the bills become law and districts become even harder to establish.

In 2008, Yorke and other members of the Saginaw-Oakland Commercial Association talked about creating one or more districts along Saginaw Street to prevent losses like the unexpected 2011 demolition of the Holy Cross school building at 1514 W. Saginaw. The city approved the demolition, but city planning director Bob Johnson said the application should have been scrutinized more closely. "Lansing lost a special and iconic building," Johnson said in an interview shortly after the demolition.

The demolition could have been stayed if a historic district commission had been created, Yorke said. Yorke and other westsiders met with members of the State Historic Preservation Office and the National Historic Trust, but the district never materialized.

"They laid it all out for us," Yorke said. "It's a lot of work. We didn't have the capacity or the volunteers."

Harrell-Seyburn said historic districts are crucial to preserving old neighborhoods in East Lansing, where six districts cover about 800 properties, many of them rentals.

"There's a reason why historic districts have been established in heavily rental neighborhoods," Harrell-Seyburn said. "Most landlords want to do whatever they want, whenever they want. They'd raze the turn-of-the-century houses and build high-rises if they could."

The proposed bills would also change the way property owners appeal decisions by local preservation boards. Instead of appealing to a state board of preservation specialists,

they would appeal to local officials such as a City Council.

To preservationists, that looks like a solution looking for a problem. Finegood said only one appeal was filed in Michigan in 2015.

Yorke said she hasn't heard any complaints from constituents on overly stringent historic district requirements.

"I don't recall anyone from Cherry Hill neighborhood ever calling me up and saying, 'This historic district is really holding me back,'" Yorke said.

Dale Schrader is vice president of Preservation Lansing, a nonprofit that lobbies for historic districts and recognizes key area projects in an annual awards ceremony.

Schrader has restored several homes and buildings in north Lansing, including a 1923 Sinclair filling station on Grand River Avenue.

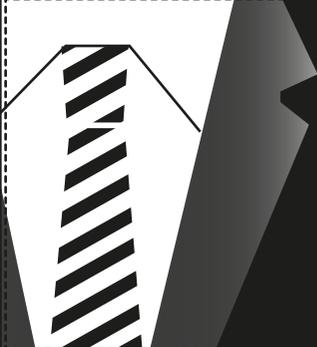
Schrader said the proposed bills are "designed to rig the game against historic preservation districts."

He dreads the prospect of appealing a historic commission ruling to a "politicized" city council or township board rather than a state board of preservation experts.

Here, too, Lansing provides a handy object lesson. "I live in a neighborhood with that Niowave pole barn," Schrader said, referring to a three-story-tall, 14,000-square-foot, corrugated steel structure erected by the Niowave Corp. in 2012 in the Walnut Neighborhood with support from Lansing city officials.

"Suddenly this inappropriate structure appeared in the yard of a historic school, with historic homes around it, but it's not a historic district, so they can do what they want," Schrader said.

—Lawrence Cosentino



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ARTS & CULTURE

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TAKING THE BULL BY THE HORNS

‘The Artist as Activist’ tackles thorny issues in Bangladeshi culture

By TY FORQUER

“The Artist as Activist,” a new exhibit at the Broad Art Museum featuring the art of Bangladeshi artists Tayeba Begum Lipi and Mahbubur Rahman, meets some of the country’s biggest social issues head-on. True to its title, the exhibit challenges traditional ideas of marriage, nationality and religion.

“The Artist as Activist: Tayeba Begum Lipi and Mahbubur Rahman”

On display through Aug. 7
FREE

Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum
547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing
(517) 884-4800,
broadmuseum.msu.edu

“It’s not a quiet show,” said Broad Art Museum curator Caitlin Doherty. “It doesn’t sit on the fence.”

Rahman and Lipi, a husband and wife duo, are two of Bangladesh’s most prominent contemporary artists. This

exhibit is the first major museum exhibition to bring the work of the two artists together.

“This is the largest show of our lives,” Lipi said.

The exhibit is divided in three sections: one section for each of the artists as individuals and one section for their combined works.

Lipi’s section is constructed as a series of three rooms. Doherty designed the rooms to become increasingly intimate, both in size and subject matter, as one moves through the section.

The first room features several domestic items, such as a sewing machine table or a mattress, constructed from eye-catching stainless steel. A closer examination reveals that the steel is actually a sheet of razor blades.

“I like using sharp materials,” Lipi explained, “Sharp and shiny.”

On one hand, she said, the razors represent an element of danger. In Bangladeshi culture, subjects like domestic abuse are rarely discussed in public.

“There’s a lot of violence you don’t see,” Lipi said.

But the steel also represents strength, or



Ty Forquer/City Pulse

Tayeba Begum Lipi plays both bride and groom in “I Wed Myself,” a video work that addresses the issue of marriage in Bangladeshi culture.

what Lipi calls the “hidden power of women.” While the steel is shiny and attractive, it is rigid and resilient when pressed. This type of quiet perseverance is needed in a society that affords few rights to women.

As you move into the next room, a pair of video works take on issues of marriage and religion. The next room features pieces that address issues of motherhood and femininity.

Where Lipi’s style is introspective and subtle, Rahman’s is brash and direct. His diverse works take up the largest upstairs gallery.

Several themes emerge in this section. A series of prints deals with issues of national identity, with self portraits of the artist seemingly hanging in limbo drawn in charcoal over government documents. Bangladesh’s turbulent 20th century included stints as a British colony and then a part of Pakistan before the country gained its independence in the early 1970s.

Like Lipi, Rahman uses sharpened steel as a thematic element — in his case, surgical scissors. Rahman, who had a finger partially amputated as a child, is fascinated by surgical scissors. The scissors also have a meta-

phorical significance, representing the way Bangladesh has been cut away from different national affiliations.

“The purpose of the scissors is to cut the body,” Rahman explained. “It’s about making partitions, taking something out of the body.”

Other works deal with the 2013 Rana Plaza disaster, where over 1,000 workers were killed in a factory collapse. A set of prints comments on Rahman’s difficulty traveling in the wake of terrorist attacks.

Marriage is an important theme in both artists’ work. In Bangladesh, especially in small villages and rural areas, arranged marriages are still common.

“If you’re a man, you have all the power,” Lipi explained. “In some situations, men will get photos of 50 women to choose from.”

“I Wed Myself,” a creative video piece in Lipi’s section of the exhibit, depicts a bride and groom preparing for their wedding — with Lipi playing both parts. It functions as a sort of escapist fantasy, with the bride avoiding the uncertainty of an arranged marriage by marrying herself.

Other works by Rahman draw parallels

between arranged marriages and the purchase of cattle. “Toys Are Watching Toys,” a multi-media work by the combined artists, juxtaposes a marriage scene against a video of animal sacrifice. The bride is offered up as a sacrificial animal to her husband.

(This piece is graphic and quite shocking. The installation is blocked off from the rest of the exhibit, and a sign warns viewers about the piece’s content.)

The final section, featuring combined works by the artists, addresses the struggles of transgender people in Bangladesh. A pair of video works, a sculpture and a light-box piece all focus on a transgender woman named Annonya and her day-to-day life in Bangladesh.

The exhibit stands in contrast to Andrew Sender’s exhibit, which is housed downstairs and across the hallway. Where Sender’s hyper-realistic paintings are purposely opaque, Rahman and Lipi’s works have a clear agenda.

“Our activism, our artwork, says something. We want to change the world,” Rahman said. “We want to change the mentality of people, then things will change.”



Ty Forquer/City Pulse

“Feature-2,” by Mahbubur Rahman, is a headpiece made out of surgical scissors.

LISTENING ROOM

Sticky jam

Pat Zelenka embraces spontaneity on new album

By TY FORQUER

As the title suggests, Pat Zelenka's "The Elm Street Sessions 4/30/14" attempts to capture a musical snapshot, a single night of music making. The result is essentially a jam session caught on tape. This is a knife that cuts both ways.

On one hand, the album is energetic and loose. It captures the excitement of four musicians getting together and jamming on some of their favorite tunes. This session was recorded live in a studio, but it just as easily could have happened in a basement practice space or at one of the bars just down the street.

On the other hand, the album suffers from some classic jam session problems. With a few exceptions, form and structure settle into predictable conventions. First comes the melody, then a guitar solo that builds into a climax before tapering off into a restatement of the melody. Lather, rinse, repeat.

A busy guitarist, Zelenka has been a part of the Lansing music scene for 20 years, playing with several local bands. ("Too many to count," he says.) About 10 years ago, he formed the Pat Zelenka Project, which has become his primary performing group. Zelenka hosts a weekly open mic at the Colonial Bar and Grill and also performs regularly at Buddies Grill in Holt and Red Cedar Spirits.

The version of the Pat Zelenka Project on this album is essentially a trio:

Zelenka on guitar, Michael Swartwood on bass and Nate Woodring on drums. Quentin Leverich joins on percussion for a few tracks.

The album kicks off with Kenny Burrell's "Chitlins Con Carne." Zelenka takes this Latin-jazz classic and takes it in a rockier, Santana-esque direction. On this track, as with most of the album, Zelenka takes all melody and soloing duties. While it's certainly one's prerogative to highlight oneself on one's own CD, the result is a tex-



Courtesy Photo

Local guitarist Pat Zelenka brings a loose, improvisational energy to his latest album, "The Elm Street Sessions 4/30/14."

ture that is fairly static. Sharing the spotlight a little more would allow the listener to cleanse the sonic palate once in a while.

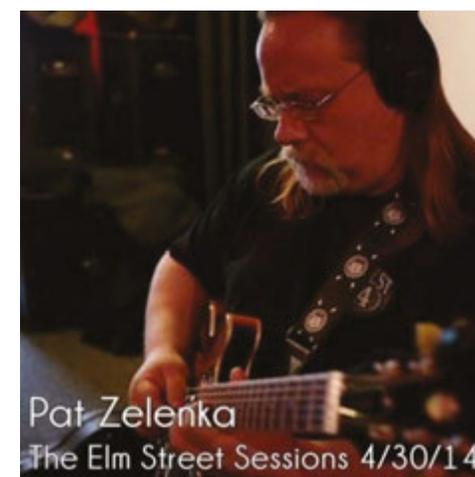
Next up is Zelenka's take on "My Favorite Things." Frankly, I'm surprised anyone still records jazz versions of "My Favorite Things." The ghost of John Coltrane looms large over this tune. Somehow Trane took a waltzy Rodgers and Hammerstein tune about "raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens" and turned it into an expansive minor-key meditation.

Zelenka turns in a relaxed, lounge-y version of the tune, simultaneously avoiding the traps of falling short of Coltrane's grand proclamation and the syrupiness that catches versions that stick closer to the original. Zelenka's guitar work is sensitive and introspective. The tempo steadily increases as the intensity of the solo builds, and by the time the melody returns, the tune has lost the relaxing vibe it started with. The looseness of the jam session strikes again.

Next up is a pair of original tunes, "Hipshot" and "Patrick Je Blues," both written by Zelenka. "Hipshot" starts with a conga solo by Leverich, which is a nice change of pace. The tune itself is built on a single riff that is carried by the bass for nearly the entire tune. At about three minutes in, when the repetitiveness of the riff becomes almost too much to bear, the bass drops out to give way to a second conga solo, followed by a drum set solo that leads into the ending guitar solo. "Patrick Je Blues" is a swampy, shuffling blues that Zelenka milks for all it's worth.

Zelenka's take on "All Blues" is probably the most fun track on the album. Miles Davis purists will certainly shutter at the thought of turning Davis' floating 6/8 blues into a funky 4/4 romp, but it works surprisingly well.

The next track is another gem, a cover of "Cissy Strut." The tune was originally written by the Meters, a tragically underappreciated proto-funk band that flirted with mainstream success in the 1960s and '70s. Zelenka's version pushes aside the New Orleans second line vibe of the



The Elm Street Sessions 4/30/14

Pat Zelenka

2015, independent release
reverbNation.com/pzproject

original and pushes it into a jazz fusion direction. The tune also features the only solo turn from Swartwood, who takes a tonally adventurous bass solo.

The album concludes with "Villanova Junction." Zelenka takes the stormy Jimi Hendrix blues tune and turns it into a smoky, introspective number that builds to a simmering climax.

Zelenka is clearly a seasoned guitarist who has done his homework. Glimpses of guitar legends like B.B. King, Santana and even John McLaughlin show up in his style. It's not cheap mimicry, but rather the absorbing of these artists' traits into his own style.

The album is also another strong showing for producer Ryan Wert and Elm Street Studios, where the album was recorded. The guitar tones are gritty without being overly distorted, and the drums, bass and percussion are present without getting in each other's way.

This type of album is great for lounging around the house. Turn up the stereo, crack open a beer and pretend you're at a bar somewhere soaking up the sound. Then when it gets warmer, maybe try to catch Zelenka on a patio somewhere.

CURTAIN CALL

Tragedy and humanity

'The Women of Lockerbie' explores grief, recovery in the wake of terrorism
By PAUL WOZNIAK

Before Sept. 11, 2001, there was Dec. 21, 1988 when Pan Am Flight 103 exploded over Lockerbie, Scotland,

killing all 259 passengers on board and 11 people on the ground. While the Lockerbie bombing and response of Lockerbie residents serves as the factual backdrop for playwright Deborah Brevoort's "The Women of Lockerbie," the play is a dramatic work of fiction about dealing with grief in the wake of a traumatic act of violence. Combining the powerful script with strong performances from a talented cast, Riverwalk Theatre's production

Review

'The Women of Lockerbie'

Riverwalk Theater

8 p.m. Friday March 11 and

Saturday, March 12; 2 p.m.

Sunday, March 13

\$12/\$10 students, seniors

and military

228 Museum Drive, Lansing

(517) 482-5700,

riverwalktheatre.com

of "The Women of Lockerbie" is a touching tribute to the Lockerbie victims, as well as a relevant examination of how we try to make sense of the senseless.

Seven years after the Lockerbie bombing, Americans Madeline and Jeff Livingston (Janet Colson and Jeff Magnuson, respectively) visit Lockerbie to remember their son, who was aboard the flight. But Madeline wants more than just to remember; she wants to find a piece — any piece — of her son to bury. The bomb was directly

under his seat, so the chances of finding even a fragment of his remains are slim.

In Lockerbie, they meet a group of women — played by Gini Larson, Jackie Payne and Erin Hoffman — who are working to gather the clothes of the victims, launder them and return them to the grieving families. Doak Bloss plays intransigent bureaucrat George Jones, who refuses to release the clothes to the women, citing Washington policy and the fact that the clothes are "contaminated."

But this show is not about clothes, clean or dirty. It's about how people respond to unexpected tragedy. At first, Bill seems like a stoic, unfeeling man

Curtain Call

from page 9

coddling his delirious wife. In describing his wife's current state to the Lockerbie women, he says, "She lies on the living room couch and weeps. She goes over and over the moment"

We eventually learn that he is more repressed than unfeeling. "I had to do everything," Jeff says, recounting how he had to manage all the painful logistics, including talking to the press and returning all of his son's Christmas presents to the store.

Magnuson and Colson are wonderful in their roles, with Colson's manic exasperation fueling Magnuson's frustration and wearing away his patience. They're matched by Larson, Payne and Hoffman who each recount the graphic horrors

on the ground with a necessary sense of emotional detachment. Gay Oliver turns in a strong performance as Hattie, George's assistant.

As the de-facto leader of the women, Larson not only recounts her own tragic connection to the crash, but she also gets to deliver a scathing criticism of Madeline's warped sense of American entitlement. More than anyone, Larson grounds the production in emotional authenticity. When she's not on stage, the actors seem less certain. But as soon as she enters again, the energy locks in.

While the leveled ramps of the set designed by Leroy Cupp feel very minimalist, they highlight the subtle impressionist set painting and clever lighting. The no-frills feel certainly leaves space for the words to be heard. Director Amy Rickett's focus is clearly on the acting, and it shows. Rickett also manages to free the dialogue from its poetic, Greek

tragedy structure and turn it into a more natural, relatable verse. "The Women of Lockerbie" is a reminder of the sad chaos in the world, as well as the benevolent humanity that can follow.

Fishy fun

'Red White and Tuna' riffs on small town attitudes
By DAVID WINKELSTERN

This is one tuna that has a sweet smell: the smell of success. Starlight Dinner Theatre's production of "Red, White and Tuna" will keep open-minded audiences laughing from start to, well, fin-ish.

(There are plenty more fish puns where that came from, but don't abandon ship. It's all in good fun.)

Review

"Red, White and Tuna"
Starlight Dinner Theatre
7:30 p.m. Friday, March 11 and Saturday, March 12 (dinner at 6:30 p.m.)
2 p.m. Sunday, March 13 (dessert at 1:30 p.m.)
Dinner and show: \$36/\$33 seniors and students/\$20 children
Show only: \$15/\$14 seniors and students/\$13 children
Sunday matinee with dessert: \$20
Sunday matinee only: \$15/\$14 seniors and students/\$13 children
Waverly Intermediate School
3131 W. Michigan Ave.,
Lansing
(517) 599-2779,
starlightdinnertheatre.com

M i c h a e l Hays and James Houska reeled in Saturday night's small crowd with sarcastic and witty dialogue. The play takes place in the fictional town of Tuna, Texas, which is apparently populated by loony — and, at best, weird — townsfolk. The entire impolite population is portrayed precisely, professionally, and preposterously by the pair of

Hays and Houska.

The actors switch between multiple roles over the course of the two-hour play. With continual — and mostly seamless — costume changes, Hays transforms into characters like Amber Windchime, a flower child who remained a ditzy hippie; Vera Carp, the town snob; and the hilarious gun dealer Didi Snavely. "If we can't kill it, it's immortal," Didi proclaims. Hays also manages male roles like animal rights activist Petey Fisk and the laughable Garland Poteet, a soda dispenser with an affection for tequila.

Houska jumps into roles like the Rev. Sturgis Spikes, an evangelical fresh out of jail; Bertha Bumiller, a no-nonsense and sometimes nonsensical bride-to-be; and R.R. Snavely, an alleged UFO captive who, shall I say, was affected by his experience. Houska probably earned the most laughs as Joe Bob Lipsey, a Fifth of July parade "queen" who added a new meaning to the term.

Does that mean if neither performer earns a best actor Pulsar nomination, they could angle for a best supporting actor prize? If so, the duo would get maybe

20 chances. That's 10 opportunities (oppor-tuna-ties?) for each.

As entertaining as the events that unfolded on stage were, the scene behind the curtain folds had to be another show worth watching. Somehow, the show's team of costume dressers — Susan Chmurynsky, Susan DeRosa, Sarah Hauck, Fran Ludington, Elizabeth Todd and Jan Ross — managed to re-dress the actors on the fly, sometimes switching outfits during pauses no longer than a brief monologue or a verse of a song. Surely their frenzied tasks would have been a treat to see.

The minimalistic set wasn't much to look at, though it did have some nostalgic furniture and fixtures. We were forced to use our imagination to believe chairs were also car seats or a bed. Spot-on audio cues and sound effects were appreciated embellishments.

The play, written by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears, and Ed Howard, debuted in 1998. Skillful ringmaster/director Bob Robinson surely added a few updates. Some of the its original references — such as a "Free White Texas" group, the OKKK radio station, Bertha's dislike of Jehovah Witnesses because she "can't stand a Christian who doesn't like war," and Vera calling all her (illegal) Hispanic workers, "Lupe" — might not be as land as well in today's political climate.

"Red, White and Tuna's" intent is to make fun of the small-mindedness associated with small towns, especially in the South. The jokes are all on bigots, homophobes, religious fanatics and people who degrade women. Those who revere the state, worship guns and God equally or think we really need "Smut Snatchers" won't find it very funny. Those who sing a different tune (or a different tune-a) will likely enjoy "Red, White and Tuna."

Blossoming talent

Singers shine in 'The Secret Garden'

By MARY C. CUSACK

Now that Peppermint Creek Theatre Co. is ensconced in the Miller Performing Arts Center, it faces a problem familiar to nonprofit theater companies: its ambitions are bigger than its performance space. But the best directors rise to the challenge, never letting the space dictate the limits of their creativity. Such is the case with its current production, a musical version of "The Secret Garden."

As he did with last year's production of "Dogfight,"

See Curtain Call, Page 11

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HOW'S YOUR GAME?

Curtain Call

from page 10

director Chad Swan-Badgero utilizes every inch of floor space — and then some — to stage a big Broadway musical, complete with a ten-piece orchestra.

The musical is based on Frances Hodgson Burnett's beloved children's novel. Mary Lennox (Lauren Kreuer) has been orphaned following a cholera outbreak in colonial India. She is sent to live with her uncle, Archibald Craven (Matt Eldred), in an isolated manor in northern England. With little to do, she roams the property and discovers a locked garden that belonged to her late aunt Lily (Abigail Grill). Mary is also driven to discover the source of crying she hears at night in the big house. With the help of the percipient local boy Dickon (Daniel Shafer), Mary tries to bring the garden back to life while also exorcising the ghosts from the manor to heal the family.

There is something about the construction of the musical that loses some of the mystery and wonder of the original novel. In trying to ensure that adult audiences would be engaged in a play based on a children's novel, it feels like playwright Marsha Norman focused too heavily on the angst of the adults and neglected to provide time for the bonds between the children to develop naturally. So much time is spent on loss and angst that it's hard to believe that children in the audience would be entertained. Still, the musical earned seven Tony nominations when it debuted on Broadway in 1991, so it obviously taps into adult nostalgia for the widely read novel.

Swan-Badgero's crowning achievement in this production is the casting of Shafer as Dickon, who is a welcome relief from the cast of depressed and dour loners. While not a major character, Dickon is the true change agent of the story, giving Mary some much needed hope and guidance. Shafer possesses the requisite charm and innocence needed for the role. He has boy-band good looks, but with a voice that's much too strong and pure for a boy band.

That casting coup is closely followed by the skillful choreography of the company's scene changes. The crew gracefully glides the garden walls around the stage as if they were dance partners. This keeps the play moving at a decent pace, something critical for a show that clocks in at over two hours.

The cast is a solid ensemble that forges some very beautiful moments. Eldred and Joseph Quick — as Archibald's brother, Dr. Neville — create a chilling crescendo in the duet "Lily's Eyes." Likewise, Grill and Ashley Ault — as Lily's sister Rose — harmonize gorgeously in "Quartet." Prize blossoms like these help this "Garden" grow despite its uneven storytelling.

Wham, wham

Lansing Symphony serves up stripped-down, stepped-up night of Mozart

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

At the climax of the Lansing Symphony Orchestra's first concert of the year, in January, the lady behind me got all keyed up.

Review

"My blood is boiling!" I heard her exclaim as she put on her coat.

Saturday's all-Mozart concert, the second of the year, took a different tack.

After a superbly programmed, paced and performed night of music by Mozart, everybody's blood pressure must have gone down 20 points.

It was a graduate seminar on doing more with less.

The timpani were in dry dock, the gongs in the garage, the tubas on mental health leave. For a major part of the night, a soaring suite from "Gran Partita," there were only 11 musicians on the stage. It was all about the strings and woodwinds.

You can do without the heavy artillery, it turns out. Exuberance, precision and a relentless sense of lift made the evening close to perfect.

The concert was a change-up in more ways than one. When traversing big soundscapes by the likes of Brahms or Bruckner, conductor Timothy Muffitt widens the screen to full size and lets the tempi breathe. For Mozart, he kept the focus sharp and the lid tight. If anything, he stepped up the pace a little, keeping extra pressure on the orchestra all night. They pushed back at him like a spring, inexorable yet flexible.

The orchestra's disciplined athleticism made the music more fun to see and listen to. The stripped-down set-up gave everyone more exposure than usual. One bearded young cellist, seated in the second

row, exhibited some fierce body language as Mozart's 40th Symphony rolled to a climax. In the midst of the fray, he turned a page on his music stand the way Captain America throws his shield. Somebody should dedicate a webcam to that guy.

There was no fluff in Muffitt's perfectly balanced program. The evening's opener, a divertimento for strings alone, started with a heartbeat as fast as a hummingbird's. The violins, violas and cellos pulsed with muscular, rapid-fire wing beats.

After a dreamy middle section, the hummingbirds came back — three or four of them, circling and wheeling in figures and fugues almost too quick to follow.

There are many ways Mozart performances can go wrong. Lack of precision or shaky intonation produces a wheezy amateur hour, no matter how well-intentioned the musicians are. But technical mastery without joy, on the other hand, makes Mozart sound smug and trivial. Saturday's suite of excerpts from the "Gran Partita" hit a sunny, earthy sweet spot. The wind ensemble drifted in happy communion with one another through nimbus, stratus and cirrus skies, with a slight hint of cumulus. It felt like a picnic on a hill, not a complacent snooze in a salon.

There are many occasions to single out principal oboist Jan Eberle, but Eberle outdid herself on the "Partita," with a glimmering, ductile sound that reflected and refracted emotion the way silver plays with light.

For a finale, strings and winds came together to serve up an exquisitely uneasy reading of Mozart's 40th Symphony.

The symphony's changes in mood aren't as obvious or spectacular as they are with, say, Brahms or Tchaikovsky, but total engagement from Muffitt and the crew left no chance for your ears to glaze over and drive into the ditch.

The slow movement, paced at a thoughtful stroll, tends to bog down even

the best performances, but not this one.

Ripples and tremors of tension gave the shiny musical texture a calm-before-the-storm fascination. There's a moment in the first movement where the strings suddenly go, "wham, wham," and the first section repeats itself, only with a new wrinkle in its forehead and a blood vessel bulging under the neck. Muffitt made the episode sound as if it was made up on the spot, like a passionate debater saying, "No, that's not it, let me put it this way." The controlled intensity and surprising spontaneity of Saturday's performance made a strong argument for music that is often dismissed as merely pretty.

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Inside the 'Little House'

New book sheds light on Laura Ingalls Wilder's personal life
By BILL CASTANIER

Millions of young people grew up reading Laura Ingalls Wilder's "Little House on the Prairie" series — or watching the TV show based on the books — about a young girl growing up on America's frontier plains in the 1800s. The nine-volume "Little House on the Prairie" collection is semi-autobiographical, drawing on Wilder's experiences living in several frontier states, including Wisconsin, Kansas and South Dakota.

Now a new book by Wilder biographer William Anderson provides amazing insight into the author's adult life. "The Selected Letters of Laura Ingalls Wilder" is a collection

William Anderson presents "The Selected Letters of Laura Ingalls Wilder"

Author talk and book signing
7 p.m. Wednesday, March 16
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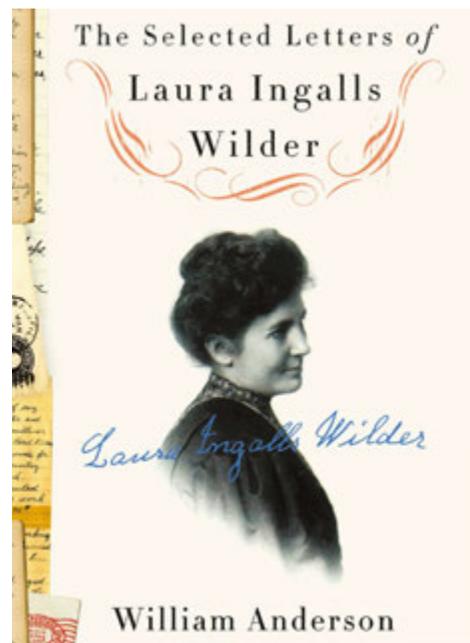
of letters she sent to fans, friends, and publishers. Most notably, the book contains letters written to her daughter, Rose Wilder Lane, who had become a successful writer before Wilder's emergence.

By the time Wilder published her first book in 1932, Lane had

already risen to stardom in the literary world. There are even claims that Lane was the ghost writer of the "Little House on the Prairie" books. This collection of letters clearly reveals that even though the mother and daughter collaborated on the books' themes, characters and style, Wilder was the primary author, starting with a pencil-written first draft.

The letters also provide a window into an American family living through the Depression and also reveal the author's disdain for President Roosevelt's New Deal. In one letter to Lane, Wilder writes, "Have you celebrated F.D.R.'s birthday properly? Mansfield (Wilder's Missouri hometown at the time) is all torn up over it." About a local WPA project she writes, "God help the poor taxpayers." It's no wonder that Wilder's books are popular with the Libertarian movement.

The book also includes responses to fan mail, which, at the peak of the author's popularity, arrived in bunches of 25 to 50 letters a day. Wilder's letters to school children across the country are treasured documents and are often held in museums and archives.



Courtesy Photo

"The Selected Letters of Laura Ingalls Wilder," by Michigan author William Anderson, gives new insight into the Wilder's personal life.

Anderson said he first became attracted to the "Little House on the Prairie" books in grade school.

"I was in the third grade, studying Native Americans and frontier living," he said. "One day, the teacher took a book and read to us. It was 'Little House.' It changed my life. I was curious. These are true stories and real people."

When he was around 10 or 12, Anderson wrote to Lane, who answered many questions he had about her mother. He still has her letters tucked away at home. While on a family vacation out West, Anderson's family visited Wilder's final home, Rocky Ridge

Farm in Mansfield, Mo. Family vacations often included detours to other Wilder homes, where Anderson soaked up Wilder lore.

"I was doing research and didn't know it," he said.

While studying at Albion College, Anderson took a summer job at the Wilder homestead in De Smet, S.D., which has been preserved and turned into a museum.

"I immersed myself in her life," he said. "I gave tours, helped restore the houses and did research in old newspaper files."

Wilder was a prolific letter writer who continued to respond to fans right up until her death. She left behind a huge amount of documentation, despite many of her letters having been burned or lost.

"Letter writing was the only way to communicate back then," Anderson said.

Anderson said that the book also refutes the popular myth that Wilder was "a little old lady in a rocking chair." The letters show that Wilder, whose first book wasn't published until she was 65, was an astute business woman who got down to the "real nitty-gritty" when her books were being published.

Anderson noted that Wilder was popular among Michigan readers. Several fan letters from the state are included in the book, and Detroit was the first city to name a library in Wilder's honor, in 1947. Wilder reciprocated by donating manuscripts of "The Long Winter" and "These Happy Golden Years," along with photographs and other ephemera. The material is now held by the Burton Historical Collection at the Detroit Public Library's Main Branch.

In addition to business details and politics, Wilder peppered her letters to her daughter and friends with local gossip, telling them about visitors, describing wild flowers and showing her excitement over fashion styles.

"Don't you love the styles this spring?" she writes. "Oh all the clothes are the prettiest for years and years."

Anderson, 62, who lives in southeast Michigan, teaches English in Lapeer. He laments that letter writing and reading aloud are lost arts.

In the classroom, he said, it's "almost taboo to read to children. It's seen as a waste of time — it doesn't impact test scores."

SCHULER BOOKS & MUSIC

AMY GUSTINE presents her highly anticipated debut *You Should Pity Us Instead*

Thursday, March 10 @ 7pm
Meridian Mall location



Meet rapidly rising literary star Amy Gustine, author of *You Should Pity Us Instead*, a radiant and wholly original short story collection. Featured in Buzzfeed's list of "The 27 Most

Exciting Books Coming in 2016," and on Bustle's "18 February Books to Light Up Your Winter," Gustine's book has earned starred reviews in Kirkus Reviews, Booklist, and Publishers Weekly.

WILLIAM ANDERSON presents *The Selected Letters of Laura Ingalls Wilder*

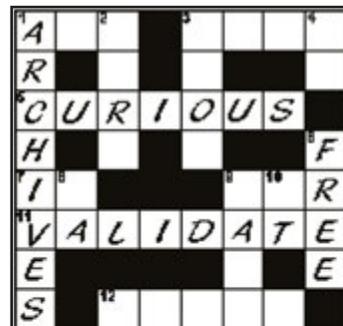
Wednesday, March 16 @ 7pm
Eastwood Towne Center location

We know many Little House fans will be as excited as we are about this event with Michigan historian and biographer William Anderson. Available for the first time and collected in one volume, you can now explore the letters of one of America's most beloved authors, Laura Ingalls Wilder—a treasure trove that offers new and unexpected understanding of her life and work.

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city pulse

st. patrick's day

special section

'CHRISTMAS FOR IRISH MUSICIANS'

Local musicians gear up for full day of St. Patrick's Day gigs

by Ty Forquer



Photo by Ronald Werritz

Ann Arbor singer/songwriter Mike Vial will perform a set of mostly Irish favorites at the Claddagh Irish Pub on St. Patrick's Day.

Local musician Mike Lynch will begin this year's St. Patrick's Day at 7 a.m. with a four-hour gig at East Lansing's Dublin Square. His day concludes with a three-hour set at Lansing Brewing Co. that ends at 11 p.m. Sandwiched in between is a three-hour slot at the Green Door. It's the type of marathon schedule Lynch has come to expect on St. Patrick's Day.

"If you're an Irish accordion player, it's a 14-hour day. That's all there is to it," he said.

Locals may recognize Lynch as the accordion player from Celtic rock group the Lash or as longtime piano/organ player with Steppin' In It. For St. Patrick's Day, Lynch will play accordion with Americana/roots group Dregspel, which includes fellow the Lash alum Rob Klajda.

Lynch is just one of the dozens of musicians who will be stationed throughout Greater Lansing on St. Patrick's Day, providing the musical backdrop for the all-day revelry. And a full day of gigs, of course, means a financial boon for musicians.

"I call it Christmas for Irish musicians," joked Drew Howard.

Depending on the day, you may find Howard playing banjo in a klezmer band, backing up a folk singer on pedal steel guitar or teaching rock 'n' roll riffs to guitar students at Elderly Instruments or the MSU Community Music School. But on St. Patrick's Day, Howard churns out jigs and reels with the Stringtown Trio.

"The trick is to stack as many gigs together as you can," he explained. "I'm playing two or three gigs this year, but I know people who are playing twice that many."

Ann Arbor-based musician Mike Vial also subscribes to the gig-stacking approach. A few years ago, he booked nine hours' worth of St. Patrick's Day gigs.

"I paid a month's worth of bills in one day," he said.

Vial played his first St. Patrick's Day gig in 2012 at the now defunct Black Rose in downtown Lansing. The next year he played at the Claddagh in East-



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ST. PATRICK'S DAY SPECIALS

Special Section

MARCH 15th - 17th

music

from page 13

wood Towne Center and has been back every year since. This year's gig at the Claddagh runs noon to 4 p.m., then Vial heads back to Ann Arbor for an evening gig.

"It's still seven hours of music," he pointed out when teased about having "just two" gigs this year.)

For Vial, the annual foray into Irish music turned into something more.

"It started off as a once-a-year thing," he said, "But it's inspired me to dig deeper into my Irish roots."

Vial, who said his heritage is "37.5 percent" Irish, remembers an uncle teaching him his first swear words in Gaelic. Studying Irish music has helped

him connect to his family's history.

"Music is a great bridge for community, family and culture," he said.

Howard said he doesn't know of any Irish in his heritage, but said a blood test indicated 99.9 percent of his genetic history traces back to the British Isles. He knows that one of his ancestors lived in Liverpool, almost directly east of Dublin across the Irish Sea. His ventures into Irish music, like his experience playing klezmer music, give him a window of sorts into others' heritage.

"It's like being in a movie," he said. "I get to visit these cultures that I don't belong to."

While a day full of bar gigs may include some surprises, Howard has a pretty good idea of what to expect.

"Typically at a gig there will be a dancer. The kind with the big, curly blond wig and dressed in a kilt," he said. "Sometimes a bagpiper will show up, and that can be loud and obnoxious. You can't play along with them — bagpipes are tuned between a B and a B-flat — so you just wait for them to finish. Bagpipes are Scottish, anyways. Why are they even there? But you just go with it."

For his gig, Vial plans to hit most of the Irish favorites but said that 10 to 20 percent of the set will be non-Irish tunes.

"Even though it's St. Patrick's Day, people still want to hear some classic bar songs," he said.

Vial also has some surprises in tow. He'll be bringing along his mandolin and mountain dulcimer this year, both of which he has taught himself how to play.

While revelers hoist pints of Guinness and shots of Jameson, Howard steers clear of the alcohol during gigs.

"I don't drink because I have so many gigs to play," he said. "I've got a job to do. Other people have a drink while they play, and that's their thing, but I would



Ty Forquer/City Pulse

Above: Local musician Mike Lynch will play three sets with Americana/roots band Dragspel this St. Patrick's Day.

fall asleep. I'd probably get fired from the gig."

Lynch takes a similar approach to the day's festivities.

"I don't drink anymore," he said, "But I had my fun with the Lash. I drank a lifetime's worth of Guinness and Jameson with that group."

Vial will also be avoiding the whiskey this year. In addition to performing and driving responsibilities, the singer has a 1-year-old at home, which changes the shape of his day.

"My day starts at 5 a.m. with a different kind of bottle," he joked. "But I'll probably have a Guinness on stage. I'll really celebrate on March 18th when the gigs are over. That should be the holiday for musicians."



Ty Forquer/City Pulse

Drew Howard, seen here playing banjo with Heartland Klezmerim, will be playing across Michigan this St. Patrick's Day with the Stringtown Trio.

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ST. PATRICK'S DAY EVENT GUIDE

Friday, March 11-12 >>

Grand Ledge St. Patrick's Day Parade

Grand Ledge lets its Irish pride shine with two days of St. Patrick's Day events. The weekend kicks off at 6 p.m. Friday with music and dancing with the Glen Erin Pipe Band at the Grand Ledge Opera House. Saturday's festivities include a free children's movie at noon at the Sun Theatre, a 2 p.m. parade through downtown Grand Ledge, an Irish stew cook-off from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the American Legion Hall and more. Some events have a cover charge, see web for details. glstpats.org.

Friday, March 11 >>

ShamROCKS at Dublin Square

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day early and support a worthy cause at Friday's ShamROCKS event. The fundraiser supports Kelleigh's Cause, a nonprofit trying to find a cure for arteriovenous malformation, a rare artery/vein condition. The evening's entertainment features rock 'n' roll from Time2Play and Irish ballads from Cahill & Murphy. Mar. 11. 5:30-10 p.m. \$15. Dublin Square, 327 Abbot Rd, East Lansing. (517) 351-2222, kelleigh.org.

St. Patrick's Day at Ellison Brewery

Ellison Brewery taps some special brews for the day, including Patty's Dry Stout, Shamrocked Mint Stout and Ellison Scotch Ale. Live music is provided by Rob Klajda (noon-3 p.m.), Max Robinson (4 p.m.-7 p.m.) and Craig Hendershot (8 p.m.-11 p.m.). Noon-midnight. Ellison Brewery & Spirits, 4903 Dawn Ave., East Lansing. (517) 203-5498, ellisonbrewing.com.

Saturday, March 12 >>

Grovenburg United Methodist Church

What's St. Patrick's Day without a hearty meal of corned beef? Grovenburg United Methodist Church offers a community corned beef dinner, including veggies, a drink and dessert. Proceeds from the dinner benefit the Ted Johnson Memorial Food Bank Garden, which grows fresh produce for the Holt Community Food Bank. Reservations are encouraged. 5-7 p.m. \$10/\$5 children 5-11/FREE for children under 5. Grovenburg United Methodist Church, 1368 Grovenburg Road, Holt. (517) 648-5730.

Monday, March 14 >>

Rory Makem at Dublin Square

Rory Makem, a seasoned Irish musician and son of legendary Irish singer Tommy Makem, leads an Irish sing-along Monday at Dublin Square. Rory Makem regularly performs with Irish music trio Makem and Spain, a staple group in the Irish music festival circuit.

Advance tickets are available online; any remaining tickets will be sold at the door starting at 6 p.m. 7:30-9 p.m. \$10. Dublin Square, 327 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 267-0410, singingfestival.com.

Saturday, March 18 >>

Steampunks support the Food Bank

Some throw on a green T-shirt for St. Patrick's Day, while others take their outfits to the next level. Local steampunk group Capitol Steam hosts a fundraiser party March 18, and attendees are encouraged to deck themselves out in steampunk, Renaissance, pirate or Irish/Scottish duds. A packed lineup of local musicians provides live music all night. Proceeds from the event benefit the Greater Lansing Food Bank. 8 p.m.-1 a.m. \$5 or two cans of non-perishable food. Kelly's Downtown, 220 S. Washington Square, Lansing. ow.ly/Z4zn3.

St Patty's Day Massacre at the Avenue Cafe

See Turn it down, page 18, for event details.

Friday, March 11-12 >>

Jackson Irish Festival

The Jackson Symphony Orchestra kicks off the St. Patrick's Day season with two days of live music and family activities. The festival kicks off at 7:30 p.m. Friday with a Celtic rock concert featuring the Moxie Strings, an instrumental fusion trio. The festival picks up again Saturday at 1 p.m. with a free event that features storyteller Yvonne Healy accompanied by an Irish harp and flute/pennywhistle duo. If you still haven't had enough Irish music by then, Irish band Limerick performs from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Friday's concert is \$15/\$5 children; Saturday's events are FREE. Call or see web for event locations. (517) 782-3221, jacksonsymphony.org.

St. Pat's at Mac's

Mac's Bar celebrates St. Patrick's Day with a stacked lineup of live hip-hop music. The evening features performances by Homeboi, Classic FR, Jones Heraux, Radio Raheem, Diamond Jones and more. Crack wings from Eastside Fish Fry are available while supplies last. 8 p.m. \$12/\$10 adv. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795, macsbar.com.

No Damn Green Beer Party at Lansing Brewing Co.

Lansing Brewing Co. celebrates its first St. Patrick's Day with a full day of music and food and drink

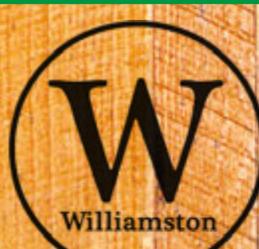
See Events, Page 16



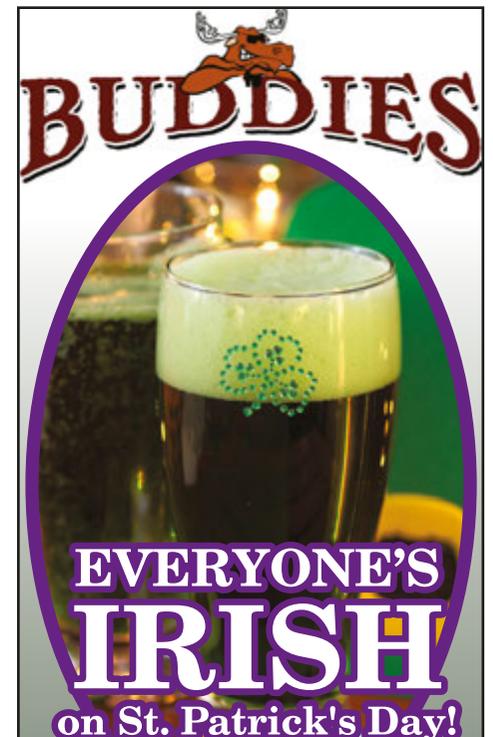

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EVENTS

from page 15

specials. The event includes a special St. Patrick's Day beer, Pog Mo Thoin Irish Stout, as well as traditional bangers and mash and not-so-traditional Irish sushi. Live music is provided by Shelby & Jake (1 p.m.), Buddy Pops (4:30 p.m.) and Dragspell (8 p.m.) 11 a.m.- 11 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. (517) 371-2600, lansingbrewingcompany.com.

Claddagh's HUGE St. Paddy's Day Party

The Claddagh Irish Pub celebrates its Irish roots with live music and Irish food specials all day long. The celebration kicks off at 8 a.m. for a "kegs and eggs" breakfast, and live music starts at noon. The slate of performers features an Irish mix from Mike Vial (noon to 4 p.m.), classic rock from New Rule (4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.) and more Irish tunes from Mark Sala (9 p.m. to midnight) to cap off the evening. 8 a.m.-midnight. Claddagh Irish Pub, 2900 Towne Center Blvd., Lansing. (517) 484-2523. claddaghirishpubs.com/lansing.

St. Patrick's Day at the Green Door

The Green Door opens early for St. Patrick's Day, kicking things off at 11 a.m. with Irish lunch options like corned beef sliders and patty melt sandwiches. Live music starts at 1 p.m. with Buddy Pops and continues with Streams of Whiskey (4 p.m. to 8 p.m.) and Tell Yo' Mama (9 p.m.-1:30 a.m.). The bar also offers Irish beer and liquor specials all day. 11 a.m.-2 a.m. The Green Door Blues Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 482-6376, greendoorlive.com.

St. Patrick's Day at Crunchy's

Don't freak out if you don't have a green T-shirt,

because Crunchy's has you covered. Pre-sale tickets for the bar's St. Patrick's Day festivities (\$15) include a reserved seat, breakfast buffet (including green eggs and ham, of course) and a T-Shirt. If you're not a morning person Crunchy's will have green beer and food/drink specials all day. 8 a.m.-2 a.m. \$15 Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2506, crunchyseastlansing.com.

St. Patrick's Day at the Waterfront Bar and Grill

David "Mad Dog" Demarco from 790AM the Game gets in the Irish spirit by hosting his afternoon radio show from the Waterfront. At 6:30 p.m., a DJ provides the tunes to keep the party going. The all-day celebration includes food and drink specials, including green beer and "shamrock shots." 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 267-3800, waterfrontlansing.com.

St. Patrick's Day at Buddies

Buddies Pub & Grill celebrates St. Patrick's Day with two happy hours at two locations. The Okemos and Holt locations both offer specials on corned beef and cabbage, shepard's pie and Guinness short ribs. Happy hours are at 2 to 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. to close. 11 a.m.-midnight. Buddie's Pub & Grill, 1937 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos, (517) 347-0443; 2040 N. Aurelius Road Suite 13, Holt, ((517) 699-3670. buddiesbars.com.

St. Patrick's Day at Coach's

Coach's celebrates the day of the year that we seek out food that has turned green with specials on green beer. The pub also offers corned beef and cabbage to pair with your beverage. 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Coach's All-American Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Road, Lansing. (517) 882-2013, coachspubandgrill.com.

March 15-17 >> Piazzano's Specials

Sure, the name sounds Italian, but according to Piazzano's, everyone is Irish on March 17. For three days straight, the restaurant serves up specials on corned beef and cabbage, Irish stew, Reuben sandwiches and Reuben rolls. 1825 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-0150, piazzanos.com.

March 15-17 >> St. Patrick's Day (and more) at the Unicorn

The self-proclaimed "only Greek Irish bar in town," the Unicorn Tavern offers a plethora of drink specials for

St. Patrick's Day, including specials on domestic beers, Irish car bombs, Jameson and Bushmills. Frog & the Beeftones play live music every evening from the 15th through the 17th. 9 a.m.-midnight. Unicorn Tavern, 327 East Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-9910.

St. Patrick's Day at Moriarty's

Irish dancers and pipers from all over Mid-Michigan stop in at Moriarty's, whose menu for the day includes traditional Irish fare. The bar serves a number of whiskeys and Irish beers, including Guinness and Smithwick's. 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. moriartypublansing.com.

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OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Allison at (517) 999-5066.

Wednesday, March 9

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Computer Club. Computer basics such as email taught. 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Aux Petits Soins. French immersion class for ages 0-12. See web for specific times for each age group. \$15/\$12 students. 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Suite F, Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

Walk the Walk, Talk the Talk. Public speaking class for grades 7-12. Register online. 5:30-6:30 p.m. FREE. Building Twentyone, 1288 N. Cedar St., Mason. (517) 889-5103, ow.ly/Yu9jH.

Practice Your English. All skill levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Enhance Fitness Series for Seniors. Course on strength, balance and cardiovascular health. 1:30-2:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363.

EVENTS

Eating Healthy on a Budget. Nutritional workshop. RSVP required. 11:30 a.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

DIY Book Coasters. Ages 8 and up craft with recycled materials. Register online. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org/register.

ICACS Whisker Wednesday. Pet adoptions. All animals spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. Noon-6 p.m. Ingham County Animal Control, 600 Curtis St., Mason. (517) 676-8370.

Senior Discovery @ ANC. Brittney Cox: History of Woldumar Nature Center. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-2468.

Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Vietnamese Buddhist Temple, 3015 S. Washington St., Lansing. (517) 351-5866, lamc.info.

Alcoholics Anonymous. A closed step meeting. 6 p.m. Donations. Pennsylvania Ave. Church of God, 3500 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 899-3215.

Allen Street Farmers Market - Indoors. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E.

See Out on the Town, Page 19

Going global



Courtesy Photo

Famoro Dioubate, a Guinean balafon player, joins a lineup of international musicians for Friday's Global Roots Music Festival at the Broad Art Museum.

March 11

A sampling of international art will be on display at the Broad Art Museum this weekend, but this art won't be hanging on the walls — it will be echoing off of them.

The Global Roots Music Festival, which comes to the museum Friday, is a traveling event that features both local and international artists who specialize in musical styles from around the world. Kalamazoo-based percussionist Carolyn Koebel, who has been co-coordinator of the festival for the three years of its existence, seeks to inspire collaboration among artists and share international music with new audiences.

"Our concept is to develop a forum for lesser-known musical styles and genres," she said. "We'd like to cultivate an environment where those genres can come together and celebrate each other."

Headlining the night is Guinean balafon player Famoro Dioubate. The balafon, also known as the bala, is a marimba-like instrument from West Africa.

"It sounds like a mellower version of the xylophone," explained Igor Houwat, co-organizer of the festival. Houwat, who plays an Arabic version of the lute known as an oud, performs Friday as all.

The balafon has an important place in Dioubate's family. Dioubate, who now lives in Harlem, comes

from a long line of Guinean djeli, who are traveling musician/historians. His grandfather is El Hadj Djeli Sory Kouyate, a renowned balafon player and leader of the National Instruments Ensemble of Guinea in the 1960s and '70s.

"My grandfather was the number one bala player in West Africa," Dioubate said. "He brought me to the ensemble, and he taught me a lot of things."

Dioubate is joined Friday by Elden Kelly, a local guitarist/singer who draws from a variety of world styles. Kelly's main instrument is an electric nylon-string guitar introduced to him by another West African musician, Habib Koeté of Mali.

"Nylon-stringed instruments are used in a lot of West African music. I find the softer sound lends very nicely to the balafon," Kelly said. "When I'm playing, it's like I'm imitating different African instruments and simultaneously blending in my American influences."

Earlier in his career, Dioubate participated in artist residencies in France and has collaborated in educational programs at the Juilliard School. He composes, arranges, and records albums with artists throughout the world.

"It's pretty amazing seeing Famoro at work," Kelly said. "He has so much energy, and it never lets up. He goes full force for the full show and has so much joy and warmth and openness."

The evening is designed as something of a world music sampler platter featuring shorts sets from a variety of musicians. Celtic-based acoustic group An Dro, with Koebel on percussion, performs alongside dancers from Kalamazoo's Erin Quinn School of Irish Dance. Also performing is Michigan Hiryu Daiko, a Kalamazoo-based outfit that performs on Japanese taiko drums, as well as Rhythm Life Collective, a percussion and dance group.

Audiences of all ages are welcome, and a cash bar is available.

"It's very multigenerational and multicultural," Koebel said. "It's a lot of fun to dance, to listen and to let the kids wiggle around. The whole night is a mini-trip around the world."

Global Roots Music Festival
5-8 p.m. Friday, March 11
FREE
Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum
547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing
(517) 884-4800,
broadmuseum.msu.edu

— ALLISON HAMMERLY

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICHTUPICA

SCARFACE AT FAHRENHEIT



SUN. MAR. 12TH

Scarface

Saturday, March 12 @ Fahrenheit Concert Venue, 6810 S. Cedar St., Lansing. 18+, \$20, 8 p.m.

Legendary dirty-south rap pioneer Scarface (real name Brad Jordan) headlines Saturday at Fahrenheit Concert Venue. Known for both his acclaimed solo discography and his stint in the iconic group Geto Boys, the Houston native started his career on Rap-A-Lot Records in the mid-'80s. After his debut on the Geto Boys' classic 1989 "Grip It! On That Other Level" LP, Scarface and his mates earned an international following — thanks in part to their controversially grim and shocking lyrics. One of the group's best known songs, "Damn It Feels Good to Be a Gangsta," even received prominent placement in the 1999 cult film "Office Space." Last year, Scarface dropped his 12th solo LP, "Deeply Rooted." It features guest spots from Rick Ross, John Legend and Cee Lo Green, among others. Openers at the Fahrenheit show are Eddie J Don't Play, Sceezy, Prime Suspects, Struk Eze and Da Golden Child.

PUNKS VS. POKES 11 AT THE AVENUE CAFE



FRI. MAR. 11TH

Flatfoot

Friday, March 11 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. \$8, 9 p.m.

The 11th annual Punks vs. Pokes concert returns to Lansing Friday with a mixed lineup of twangy alt-country outfits and raucous punk bands. This year's roster features Jason Dawdy, Flatfoot, the Jonestown Crows, City Mouse, the Devil's Cut and Paul Dubya and the Oak River Bridge Boys Band. Aaron Bales, Flatfoot's guitarist/vocalist, organizes the Lansing-based concert each year — though the roots of the show sprouted elsewhere. "The name 'Punks vs. Pokes' actually came from Rick Pniewski of the Fightin' Hellfish," Bales said. "He came up with it for a show we did with them and the Ingham County Regulars at the Elbow Room in Ypsilanti. It had such a good ring to it and was such a fun show. I decided it was a good excuse to bring together a bunch of my favorite bands in Lansing. They just seem to fit together."

ST. PATTY'S DAY MASSACRE AT THE AVENUE CAFE



THU. MAR. 17TH

Hat Madder

Thursday, March 17 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 21+, \$7, 8 p.m.

Lansing's own Hat Madder is on the road touring the country this month, making stops in New York, Kentucky, West Virginia and Wisconsin, to name only a few. The synth-heavy alt-rock band makes a pit stop back home on St. Patrick's Day at the Avenue Café. The band comprises Isaac Vander Schuur (vocals/guitars/keys), Nick Merz (keys, guitar), Jared Talcott (bass), Chris Baratono (guitar, keys) and drummer John Miller. The Hat Madder's last studio album, "Orgy Opposite," was released in late 2012 via GTG Records. Last year, the band released a live album, "Live in St. Tropez." Opening the Avenue Café show are Red Teeth (which is releasing its new "Light Bender" 7-inch vinyl at the show), When Particles Collide, the Shanks, Ian Graham (of Cheap Girls) and Trigger.

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT RICHTUPICA AT RICHT@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM >>> TO BE LISTED IN LIVE & LOCAL E-MAIL ALLISON@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	The Spragues Band, 8 p.m.	Punks vs. Pokes 11, 9 p.m.	Invisible Cartoons, 9 p.m.
Black Cat Bistro, 115 Albert Ave.		DJ Don Black, 9:30 p.m.	Chip Christy, 8 p.m.	
Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Rd.				Alistair, 5 p.m.
Brookshire, 205 W. Church St.			Alistair, 7 p.m.	
Capital Prime, 2324 Showtime Dr.				Rush Clement, 8:30 p.m.
Champions, 2440 N. Cedar St.	Karaoke, 8 p.m.			
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.		Blue Haired Betties, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	The Centerlawn Trio, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Darb's, 117 S. Cedar St.		Karaoke, 8 p.m.		Greg Smith, 9:30 p.m.
Dublin Square, 327 Abbot Rd			Cheap Dates, 10 p.m.	
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke with DJ Jamie, 9 p.m.		DJ Brendan, 9 p.m.	Kamikaze Karaoke, 9 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 7 p.m.	Skoryoke Live Band Karaoke, 8:30 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 9:30 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 9:30 p.m.
Gallery Brewery, 143 Kent St.	Artzy Phartzy Night, 5 p.m.	Open Mic, 7 p.m.		
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Blues Night, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.	Star Farm, 9:30 p.m.	The Rotations, 9:30 p.m.
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave.			, 5:30 p.m.	
Leroys, 1526 S. Cedar St.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.			The Casket Factory, 6 p.m.	Rev. Right Time, 8 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Mr. Denton on Doomsday, 8 p.m.		Stonecutters, 8 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic w/ Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.	Atomic Boogaloo, 9 p.m.	Big Boss Blues, 9 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9 p.m.
Red Cedar Spirits, 2000 Merrit Rd.		The Dangling Particples, 7:30 p.m.		Pat Zelenka Project, 7:30 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road				Paulie O., 7 p.m.
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27	Kathy Ford Band Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.			The Tenants, 7 p.m.
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.				Kathy Ford, 7 p.m.
Tavern and Tap, 101 S. Washington Sq.	Tavern House Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m.			
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Scott DuBose, 8:30 p.m.	Scott DuBose, 8:30 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.	Hot Mess, 9 p.m.	Hot Mess, 9 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.	Trevor Compton, 7 p.m.	Dan MacLachlan, 8 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.
Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr.	Open Mic, 6 p.m.		Joe Wright, 6 p.m.	

Out on the town

from page 17

Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

Meet Clifford the Big Red Dog. Ages 3-6 enjoy storytime and visit with Clifford. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett.

Meet Pout-Pout Fish. Ages 3-6 meet author and book character. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. CADL Aurelius, 1939 S. Aurelius Road, Mason.

Thursday, March 10

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

60 Ways to Grow Your Email Marketing List.

Course on business marketing. Call or register online. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

Celebrate Recovery. For all hurts and hang-ups. 6 p.m. Donations welcome. Trinity Church (Lansing), 3355 Dunckel Road, Lansing. (517) 492-1866.

Gentle Mat Yoga. Basic class. 9:45-10:45 a.m. \$56/\$40 members for seven weeks; \$10/\$7 members for one week. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

In and Out of Text: Creative Writing. Class for reading and producing creative works. For grades 7-12. Register online. 4:45-5:45 p.m. FREE. Building Twentyone, 1288 N. Cedar St., Mason. (517) 889-5103, ow.ly/Yu96k.

Ingham County Genealogical Society Meeting. "Using Evernote For Genealogy" by Lisa Feury. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Sam Corey Senior Center, 2108 Cedar St., Holt. (517) 676-7140, icgsw.org.

Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. Quan Am Buddhist Temple, 1840 N. College Road, Mason. (517) 853-1675, quanamtemple.org.

Shamanic Education and Healing Clinic. Talks and demos on contemporary shamanism. 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$10 suggested donation. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515 W. Mt. Hope Ave., Suite 3, Lansing. willowstickceremonies.com.

Spanish Conversation Group. For all levels. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Boot Love Country Theme Night. Wear country boots, paint and drink wine to country music. 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$45. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-2450, ow.ly/ZblbG.

MUSIC

Open Mic @ The Colonial Bar & Grill. Weekly bring-your-own instrument open mic. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. The Colonial Bar & Grille, 3425 S. Martin

Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. (517) 882-6132.

EVENTS

Kids Reading to Dogs. Kids read to trained dogs. 4-5 p.m. FREE. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324, cadl.org.

Ladies Silver Blades Figure Skating Club. Lessons and practice. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:20 a.m. \$5/\$2 skate rental. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing.

Mason Codependents Anonymous. A fellowship to develop healthy relationships. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Mason First Church of the Nazarene, 415 E. Maple St., Mason. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

Meet Pout-Pout Fish. Ages 3-6 meet author and book character. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363, cadl.org.

Michigan Herb Associates Conference. Presentation, vendors and more. 8:15 a.m-4:30 p.m. \$45-75. MSU Plant and Soil Science Conservatory, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. miherb.org.

Friday, March 11

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Aux Petits Soins. French immersion class for ages 0-12. See web for specific times for each age group. \$15/\$12 students. 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Suite F, Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitsoinsllc.

Palatte to Palatte: Painting Peacocks. Painting workshop. 7-9:30 p.m. \$28/\$50 for two. REACH Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

YogaFit Fridays. Beginner's class. Dress for exercise and bring a mat. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos.

THEATER

Red, White and Tuna. Two actors play 20 characters from the wacky small town of Tuna. 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$14-\$15 show only/\$33-\$36 with dinner. Waverly East Intermediate, 3131 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 599-2779, starlightdinnertheatre.com.

The Women of Lockerbie. A group of women try to reclaim the clothing of those lost after a devastating plane crash. 8 p.m. \$12/\$10 seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Collected Works. Contemporary dance. 7 p.m. \$10. Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 333-3528.

EVENTS

Lettuce Live Well Series. Nutrition education workshop targeted to seniors. 2:30-3:15 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363, cadl.org.

See Out on the Town, Page 20

THURSDAY, MARCH 10 >> BETTY BAXTER AT MUSIC AT THE MANSION

Local songstress Betty Baxter brings her silky smooth vocals to the latest installment of Music at the Mansion Thursday. The concert series, hosted by the historic Turner-Dodge House, presents a variety of music in an salon-style setting. Guitarist/bassist Doug Fritch joins Baxter Thursday in the house's intimate Music Room for an evening of jazz classics. Baxter, who has nearly 60 years of performing experience under her belt, is a regular at Greater Lansing jazz and blues festivals. Last year she was honored by the Jazz Alliance of Mid-Michigan for her impressive career. Proceeds from the show go to the continued restoration and preservation of the Turner-Dodge House. 7 p.m. \$10. Turner-Dodge House, 100 E. North St., Lansing. Lansingmi.gov/tdodge.

Ingham County Animal Shelter

To adopt one of these pets from the ICAS call (517) 676-8370. 600 Curtis St., Mason, MI 48854. ac.ingham.org



Butler

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Dale Schrader



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A cute, energizer bunny! He loves people and will do anything to snuggle with you.

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Bebe

A sweet girl who can sometimes be a little shy at first. She warms up quickly and is soon asking for attention.

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Ballerina

A sweet little girl looking for someone to snuggle and take long walks with. She would enjoy having a couple of fetch-loving kids too!

In Memory of Rodica's Cats



Dolly

A sweet cat who loves attention. She likes to snuggle and just receive love.

Sponsored by:
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Moonpie

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515 Lansing Road
517.541.1700



Snookie

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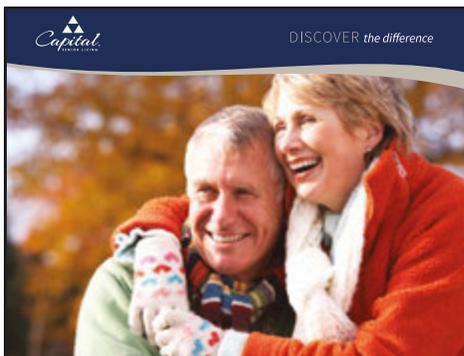
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Out on the town

from page 19

Minute to Win It. All ages compete in minute-long challenges. 4-5 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt.

One-on-One Business Counseling. Email hanfork@lcc.edu for registration and info. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Dr., Lansing. (517) 321-4014, dtld.org.

Planting Event. Plant greenery with ACTION students. 3-4 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

Skywatchers of Africa. Planetarium show. 8 p.m. \$4/\$3.50 students and seniors/\$3 children. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4676, abramsplanetarium.org.

StoryTime. Ages 2-5 years enjoy stories and songs. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

Saturday, March 12

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Garden Planning. Covers flowering plants and vegetables. RSVP required. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. \$10. Smith Floral, 1124 E. Mt. Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6085.

50th Anniversary of the Discovery of Radiation. Guest Speaker Ed Loh. 10 p.m. FREE. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. abramsplanetarium.org.

Cub Scouts Into the Wild Badge Workshop. Scouts can register as a den or individual. 10 a.m.-noon \$5. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

Finding Family: Family History Open House. Series of panels on researching family history. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. ow.ly/YZOGV.

Mid-Winter Saturday Stretch. Comfortably-paced guided stretching. 10-11 a.m. \$7 per class/\$18-27 for three sessions. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing.

Seed Starting and Transplanting. Course on growing vegetables from seed. RSVP required. 12:30-2 p.m. \$5-10 suggested donation. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. ow.ly/Z5LYS.

Study for U.S. Citizenship Series. Course on U.S. History & Civics, English skills, citizenship test prep and more. 10-11:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. cadl.org.

Tai Chi at Allen Market Place. Instruction in Qigong, meditation and Yang style tai chi forms. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Books and Bagels @ 2.0. "Same Sun Here" by S. House and N. Vaswani. 2-4 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

MUSIC

Lansing Area Ministry of Bells' 32nd Annual Spring Ring. Handbell arrangements of church music featured. 4:30-5:30 p.m. Donations welcome.

South Church, 5250 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-3221, capitalcityringers.com/lamb.

THEATER

Red, White and Tuna. Two actors play 20 characters from the wacky small town of Tuna. 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$14-\$15 show only/\$33-\$36 with dinner. Waverly East Intermediate, 3131 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 599-2779, starlightdinnertheatre.com.

Collected Works. Contemporary dance. 7 p.m. \$10. Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 333-3528.

Stage Combat: One-Day Adult Workshop. 1-4 p.m. \$70. Jackson School of the Arts, 634 N. Mechanic St., Jackson. jacksonarts.org.

The Women of Lockerbie. A group of women try to reclaim the clothing of those lost after a devastating plane crash. 8 p.m. \$12/\$10 seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Seuss-I-Dance and Other Silliness. Family dance. 1 p.m. \$5. Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 333-3528.

EVENTS

Callaway Golf Demo Day. Demo of Callaway golf clubs and TruGolf simulators. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Leading Edge Golf, 2805 Jolly Road, Suite 260, Okemos. leadingedgegolf.com.

Cocktails and Karaoke. Proceeds to the Ariana Mae Foundation. 7:30 p.m.-midnight. \$20. Grand

See Out on the Town, Page 21

FRIDAY, MARCH 11 >> KATE PETERSON AND NEDRA JOHNSON AT TEN POUND FIDDLE

The Ten Pound Fiddle brings a double bill of artists to Allen Market Place Friday. Kate Peterson and Nedra Johnson split the evening's concert, which is co-produced by female-focused music distributor Goldenrod Music. Peterson, who performs a "pleasantly aggressive" folk-based style of music, has performed across the U.S. and Europe with her folk duo, Nervous but Excited. Johnson's music — influenced by blues, jazz, folk, funk and rock — delivers strong opinions on feminism, religion, politics and other controversial topics. 8 p.m. \$15/\$12 members/\$5 students. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 337-7744, tenpoundfiddle.org.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11 >> HANDEL'S "MESSIAH" WITH STEINER CHORALE

Christmas in March? Though Handel's "Messiah" is commonly associated with the Christmas season, Lansing's Steiner Chorale brings the choral masterpiece to local audiences for the Lent and Easter season. With lyrics based on biblical passages, "Messiah" tells the life story of Jesus Christ through epic choral arrangements. Friday's performance features guest soloist Gedeane Graham, a graduate student in MSU's vocal performance program. 6:30 p.m. \$12. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (440) 225-4076, steinerchorale.org.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12 >> "SKIPPYJON JONES — SNOW WHAT" AT THE WHARTON CENTER

Everybody wishes they were something they're not sometimes. Such is the case for Skippyjon Jones, the Siamese cat who thinks he's a Chihuahua. Skippyjon, as his alter ego, Skippito Friskito, must travel to the make-believe world inside his closet for a noble quest. Aided by the seven Chimichangos, the adventurous kitten strives to defeat evil foes and rescue Princess Nieve Que. This family-friendly musical, based on the book by Judy Schachner, is full of wordplay and peppered with jokes. 1:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. \$12. Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

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Out on the town

from page 20

Ledge Country Club, 5811 E. St. Joe Hwy., Grand Ledge. arianamae.org.

Meet Paddington Bear. Stories, crafts and a visit with Paddington himself. 1:30-2:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt.

Second Saturday Supper. Baked chicken dinner, all welcome. 5-6:15 p.m. \$8/\$4 kids. Mayflower Congregational Church, 2901 W. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-3139, mayflowerchurch.com.

ARTS

Williamston Pop Up Art & Crafts Show. Local artists, crafters and makers show work. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. FREE. Keller's Plaza Upstairs, 107 S. Putnam St., Williamston. ow.ly/YZUKX.

Sunday, March 13

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Charlotte Yoga Club. Beginner to intermediate levels. 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \$5 annually. ALIVE, 800

W. Lawrence Road, Charlotte. (517) 285-0138, charlotteyoga.net.

Juggling. Learn to juggle. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St., Lansing. (517) 485-9190.

THEATER

The Women of Lockerbie. A group of women try to reclaim the clothing of those lost after a devastating plane crash. 2 p.m. \$12/\$10 seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Red, White and Tuna. Two actors play 20 characters from the wacky small town of Tuna. 1:30-4 p.m. \$20. Waverly East Intermediate, 3131 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 599-2779, starlightdinnertheatre.com

Collected Works. Contemporary dance. 2 p.m. \$10. Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 333-3528.

EVENTS

CADL Tadpole Storytime at I5. Weather activities for ages 3-6. 1-2 p.m. FREE. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. cadl.org.

Coloring for Adults. Grown-ups enjoy relaxing coloring books. Supplies provided. 2-4 p.m. FREE.

Jonesin' Crossword

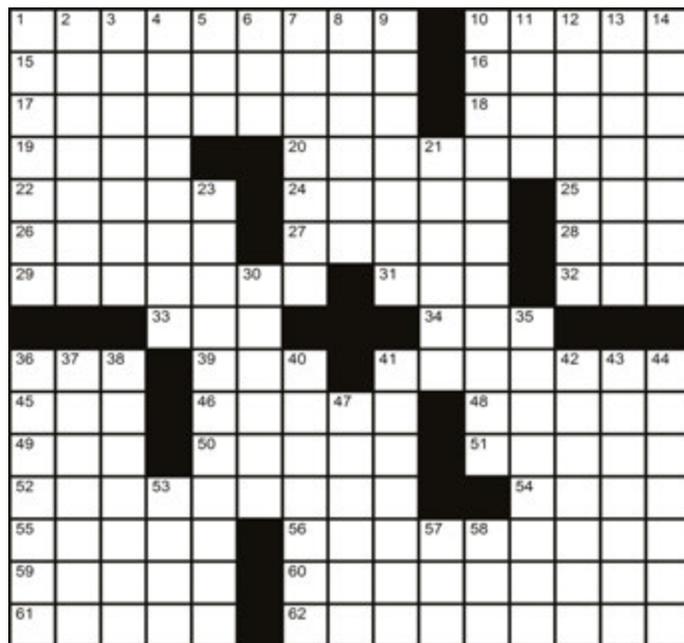
By Matt Jones

"Freestyle by the Numbers"—well, mainly one number.

Matt Jones

Across

- 1 What did Yours Truly do on March 10th, 2016?
- 10 Drive away
- 15 Unhurriedly
- 16 Gymnastically gifted
- 17 Chemistry kit vessels
- 18 1999 Kevin Smith comedy
- 19 Old Peruvian currency
- 20 Like some early 20th-century abstract art
- 22 "Never have I ever been ___ 10 in my whole life" (Rihanna lyric)
- 24 Alamogordo's county
- 25 "The Evil Dead" protagonist
- 26 Dressed to the ___
- 27 Legendary lawman Earp
- 28 Suffix with meteor
- 29 French city famous for its lace
- 31 Outback leaper
- 32 Cookie jar piece
- 33 "Spectre" director Mendes
- 34 "Letters from ___ Jima" (2006 film)
- 36 Broadcaster based in Toronto
- 39 Fido's foot
- 41 Ford line of trucks
- 45 The Land of ___ (setting of Finn and Jake's Cartoon Network show)
- 46 Diciembre follower
- 48 NRA piece?
- 49 Elvis's record label
- 50 Type of restaurant featured in Hulu's "11.22.63"



- 51 Historic river of Paris
- 52 "Things done," in legal terms
- 54 "The Killing Fields" Oscar winner Haing S. ___
- 55 Prefix before modern or marathon
- 56 "___ Time" (Finn and Jake's Cartoon Network show)
- 59 Braid of hair
- 60 They display information in wedges
- 61 Cultivated land
- 62 Those who signed up

Down

- 1 "From Russia With Love" Bond girl Romanova
- 2 Knife, e.g.
- 3 Author of the "Goose-

- bumps" books
- 4 Social media users, e.g.
- 5 In good physical shape
- 6 Home of the Beavers, for short
- 7 Massage table activity
- 8 Peace talks objective
- 9 Long-running CBS sitcom of the 2000s
- 10 Structures that help transmission
- 11 Psyche parts
- 12 Braid on one side
- 13 Peruvian volcano
- 14 Removed by percolating
- 21 Belgian beer brand Stella ___
- 23 Get out of a perilous situation
- 30 Muscat natives
- 35 Avenue next to Read-

- ing Railroad, in Monopoly
- 36 Crooked
- 37 Blind singer Andrea
- 38 Shorefront
- 40 Lost one's mind with excitement
- 41 A long time to wait, it seems
- 42 "Yeah, that seems about right"
- 43 1983 movie about Guatemalan immigrants
- 44 Cassandra, for instance
- 47 Enter, as data
- 53 Sandpaper coarseness measure
- 57 Author Umberto who died in 2016
- 58 Lady Byng Memorial Trophy org.

MONDAY, MARCH 14 >> BEETHOVEN! WITH MSU COLLEGE OF MUSIC

While Beethoven is perhaps the biggest name in classical music, a group of MSU College of Music faculty is putting the spotlight on some of the musical giant's lesser known works. Monday's concert kicks off with Beethoven's Piano Trio in C Minor, Op. 1 No. 3, featuring guest pianist Rohan de Silva. A native of Sri Lanka, De Silva frequently accompanies violin virtuosos like Itzhak Perlman and Joshua Bell and is a faculty member at the Juilliard School. The second half of the program is Beethoven's Septet in E-flat Major, Op. 20., a six-movement piece for strings and winds originally dedicated to Maria Theresa, the first empress of Austria. 7:30 p.m. \$15/\$12 seniors/\$5 students. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, music.msu.edu.

CADL Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. cadl.org.

Dungeons and Dragons Strategy Game for Youth. Noon-5 p.m. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900.

Everyday Moments are Learning Moments. Meet favorite storybook characters. 1-3:30 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

Greater Lansing Vegan Dinner Club. Bring a vegan dish and recipe. 5:45-8:30 p.m. FREE. Clerical Technical Union of MSU, 2990 E. Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing. (517) 449-3701, ow.ly/ZbfB6.

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. A fellowship to develop healthy relationships. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance. Lessons 6-6:45 p.m., dance 6:45. \$8 dance/\$10 dance & lesson. The Lansing Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 490-7838.

Nuts About Squirrels: Guided Walk. Educational nature walk. 3-4:30 p.m. \$3/\$7 per family. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

The Little Star That Could. Educational planetarium program. 2:30 p.m. \$4/\$3.50 seniors and students/\$3 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4672, abramsplanetarium.org.

Monday, March 14

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Homework Help for Grades K-8. Tutoring from MSU students. 5-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Recipe Club. Group shares themed recipes. 6-7:30

p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. dtld.org.

Support Group. For the divorced, separated and widowed. 7:30 p.m. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272, stdavidslansing.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

The Writing Hour. Adults and kids ages 9 and up share ideas and work from prompts. 5:30-6:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Dansville, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville.

EVENTS

Breast Cancer Support Group. 7-9 p.m. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 364-2689.

Social Bridge. Play bridge and meet new people. No partner needed. 1-4 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

Tuesday, March 15

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

LifeTime Tai Chi. Standing and seated exercises incorporated. 9-10 a.m. FREE for members. Sparrow Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (517) 364-8146, sparrow.org.

Artistic Crossfit- Lion Killers. Fitness class for grades 7-12. Register online. 4-4:45 p.m. FREE. Building Twentyone, 1288 N. Cedar St., Mason. (517) 889-5103, ow.ly/Yu9AL.

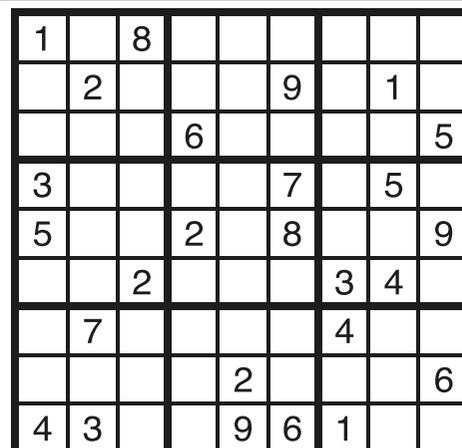
Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. All skill levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. \$3. Gier Community Center, 2400 Hall St., Lansing. crisisrfg.com.

Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. Learn public speaking and leadership skills. 7 p.m. FREE.

See Out on the Town, Page 22

SUDOKU

INTERMEDIATE



TO PLAY

Fill in the grid so that every row, column, and outlined 3-by-3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 exactly once. No guessing is required. The solution is unique.

Answers on page 23

Out on the town

from page 21

CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 775-2697, cadl.org.

Hopeful Hearts Grief Group. Learn, grow and heal together. 10-11 a.m. FREE. The Marquette Activity Room, 5968 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. (517) 381-4866.

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 5:45-6:45 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

Speakeasies Toastmasters. Improve listening, analysis, leadership and presentation skills. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (616) 841-5176.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Have a support system, lose weight. Wheelchair accessible. Weigh-in 6:30, meeting 7 p.m. FREE first visit. St. Terese Church, 102 W. Randolph St., Lansing. tops.org.

Make Central Workshop: 3D Printing Demystified. Hands-on 3D printing session with lecture and designing. 6-7 p.m. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. lib.msu.edu.

Teen Advisory Council. Leadership group for grades 9-12. Enroll online. 4-5 p.m. FREE. Building Twentyone, 1288 N. Cedar St., Mason. (517) 889-5103, ow.ly/Yu9ZM.

Yawn Patrol Toastmasters. Learn public speaking. 7-8:30 a.m. Studio 1210 Place, 1210 Turner St., Lansing. (989) 859-2086, yawnpatrol.com.

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Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5287.

Reminisce Group: History of Music. Presentation on music that brings back old times. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Aurelius, 1939 S. Aurelius Road, Mason.

Voicing Poetry II. Original poetry and musical compositions 7:30 p.m. Hart Recital Hall, Music Building, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 884-1932, centerforpoetry.wordpress.com.

THEATER

Motown the Musical. Musical about the life of Berry Gordy. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$38. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON, whartoncenter.com.

EVENTS

AARP HomeFit Program. Experts help seniors assess their homes to live safely and independently. 10 a.m.-noon FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

Bible and Beer. Discussion of scripture's power in daily events. 6 p.m. Kelly's Downtown, 220 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 482-0600, bibleandbeer@ccclansing.org.

DTDL Crafters. Handcrafting projects. Bring your own supplies. 2:30-4:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing.

Kids Reading to Dogs. Kids read to trained dogs. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Dansville, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville.

Knitting and Crochet Group. All welcome. 11 a.m.-noon FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

LCC West Toastmasters. Public speaking skills-building group. All are welcome. 5-6:30 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. toastmasters.org.

ToddlerTime. Ages 18-36 months listen to stories, music and get moving. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Wednesday, March 16

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Walk the Walk, Talk the Talk. Public speaking class for grades 7-12. Register online. 5:30-6:30 p.m. FREE. Building Twentyone, 1288 N. Cedar St., Mason. (517) 889-5103, ow.ly/Yu9JH.

Practice Your English. All skill levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Figure Drawing Seats Available. Email toni@

See Out on the Town, Page 23

TUESDAY, MARCH 15-20 >> "MOTOWN THE MUSICAL" AT THE WHARTON CENTER

Maybe you've already heard it through the grapevine, but "Motown the Musical" is coming to the Wharton Center. The show follows the life of Detroit record producer Berry Gordy with a book written by the man himself. Through a series of flashbacks, the show highlights Gordy's personal and professional relationships with stars such as Diana Ross, Michael Jackson and Marvin Gaye. With over 60 Motown songs worked into the production, there ain't no mountain high enough to keep Detroit music fans away from this show. The March 17 performance is followed by a talk with cast members. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets start at \$38. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsny

March 9-15

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "He in his madness prays for storms, and dreams that storms will bring him peace," wrote Leo Tolstoy in his novella *The Death of Ivan Ilych*. The weird thing is, Aries, that this seemingly crazy strategy might actually work for you in the coming days. The storms you pray for, the tempests you activate through the power of your longing, could work marvels. They might clear away the emotional congestion, zap the angst, and usher you into a period of dynamic peace. So I say: Dare to be gusty and blustery and turbulent.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Quoting poet W. H. Auden, author Maura Kelly says there are two kinds of poets: argument-makers and beauty-makers. I think that's an interesting way to categorize all humans, not just poets. Which are you? Even if you usually tend to be more of an argument-maker, I urge you to be an intense beauty-maker in the next few weeks. And if you're already a pretty good beauty-maker, I challenge you to become, at least temporarily, a great beauty-maker. One more thing: As much as possible, until April 1, choose beauty-makers as your companions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): To have any hope of becoming an expert in your chosen field, you've got to labor for at least 10,000 hours to develop the necessary skills — the equivalent of 30 hours a week for six and a half years. But according to author William Deresiewicz, many young graphic designers no longer abide by that rule. They regard it as more essential to cultivate a network of connections than to perfect their artistic mastery. Getting 10,000 contacts is their priority, not working 10,000 hours. But I advise you not to use that approach in the coming months, Gemini. According to my reading of the astrological omens, you will be better served by improving what you do rather than by increasing how many people you know.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): "I sit before flowers, hoping they will train me in the art of opening up," says poet Shane Koyczan. "I stand on mountain tops believing that avalanches will teach me to let go." I recommend his strategy to you in the coming weeks, Cancerian. Put yourself in the presence of natural forces that will inspire you to do what you need to do. Seek the companionship of people and animals whose wisdom and style you want to absorb. Be sufficiently humble to learn from the whole wide world through the art of imitation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The marathon is a long-distance footrace with an official length of over 26 miles. Adults who are physically fit and well-trained can finish the course in five hours. But I want to call your attention to a much longer running event: the Self-Transcendence 3100-Mile Race. It begins every June in Queens, a borough of New York, and lasts until August. Those who participate do 3,100 miles' worth of laps around a single city block, or about 100 laps per day. I think that this is an apt metaphor for the work you now have ahead of you. You must cover a lot of ground as you accomplish a big project, but without traveling far and wide. Your task is to be dogged and persistent as you do a little at a time, never risking exhaustion, always pacing yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In old Vietnamese folklore, croaking frogs were a negative symbol. They were thought to resemble dull teachers who go on and on with their boring and pointless lectures. But in many other cultures, frogs have been symbols of regeneration and resurrection due to the dramatic transformations they make from egg to tadpole to full-grown adult. In ancient India, choruses of croaks were a sign of winter's end, when spring rains arrived to fertilize the earth and bestow a promise of the growth to come. I suspect that the frog will be one of your emblems in the coming weeks, Virgo — for all of the above reasons. Your task is to overcome the boring

stories and messages so as to accomplish your lively transformations.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "Your anger is a gift." So proclaims musician and activist Zack de la Rocha, singer in the band Rage Against the Machine. That statement is true for him on at least two levels. His fury about the systemic corruption that infects American politics has roused him to create many successful songs and enabled him to earn a very good living. I don't think anger is always a gift for all of us, however. Too often, especially when it's motivated by petty issues, it's a self-indulgent waste of energy that can literally make us sick. Having said that, I do suspect that your anger in the coming week will be more like de la Rocha's: productive, clarifying, healthy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "Even now, all possible feelings do not yet exist," says novelist Nicole Krauss. In the coming weeks, I suspect you will provide vivid evidence of her declaration, Scorpio. You may generate an unprecedented number of novel emotions -- complex flutters and flows and gyrations that have never before been experienced by anyone in the history of civilization. I think it's important that you acknowledge and celebrate them as being unique — that you refrain from comparing them to feelings you've had in the past or feelings that other people have had. To harvest their full blessing, treat them as marvelous mysteries.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "Look at yourself then," advised author Ray Bradbury. "Consider everything you have fed yourself over the years. Was it a banquet or a starvation diet?" He wasn't talking about literal food. He was referring to the experiences you provide yourself with, to the people you bring into your life, to the sights and sounds and ideas you allow to pour into your precious imagination. Now would be an excellent time to take inventory of this essential question, Sagittarius. And if you find there is anything lacking in what you feed yourself, make changes!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): According to a report in the journal *Science*, most of us devote half of our waking time to thinking about something besides the activity we're actually engaged in. We seem to love to ruminate about what used to be and what might have been and what could possibly be. Would you consider reducing that amount in the next 15 days, Capricorn? If you can manage to cut it down even a little, I bet you will accomplish small feats of magic that stabilize and invigorate your future. Not only that: You will feel stronger and smarter. You'll have more energy. You'll have an excellent chance to form an enduring habit of staying more focused on the here and now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): One of the legal financial scams that shattered the world economy in 2008 was a product called a Collateralized Debt Obligation Squared. It was sold widely, even though noted economist Ha-Joon Chang says that potential buyers had to read a billion pages of documents if they hoped to understand it. In the coming weeks, I think it's crucial that you Aquarians avoid getting involved with stuff like that -- with anything or anyone requiring such vast amounts of homework. If it's too complex to evaluate accurately, stay uncommitted, at least for now.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "I wish I knew what I desire," wrote Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish, born under the sign of Pisces. "I wish I knew! I wish I knew!" If he were still alive today, I would have very good news for him, as I do for all of you Pisceans reading this horoscope. The coming weeks will be one of the best times ever — EVER! — for figuring out what exactly it is you desire. Not just what your ego yearns for. Not just what your body longs for. I'm talking about the whole shebang. You now have the power to home in on and identify what your ego, your body, your heart, and your soul want more than anything else in this life.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsny's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 1-877-873-4888 or 1-900-950-7700.

Out on the town

from page 22

lightiam.org to join. Location given upon registration. 6-9 p.m. \$15 not including supplies.

Google Drive - Working in the Cloud. Course on file-sharing apps. Call or register online. 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

Pinterest Basics. Course on using image-gathering website. Call to register. 5-6 p.m. FREE. FREE. CADL Aurelius, 1939 S. Aurelius Road, Mason. (517) 628-3743, cadl.org.

Tantra and Demonology. Talk by Dr. David Gordon White. 7 p.m. International Center, 450 Administration Bldg., East Lansing. religiousstudies.msu.edu.

EVENTS

Easter Bunny Meet & Greet. Easter Bunny visits with simple Easter craft for children. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. deltami.gov.

St. Patrick's Day Craft. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Muslim Journeys Book Club. The Butterfly

Mosque by G. Willow Wilson. 7 p.m. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. lib.msu.edu.

THEATER

Broadway Hits with Brookdale. Les Miserables 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Motown the Musical. Musical about the life of Berry Gordy. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$38. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON, whartoncenter.com.

EVENTS

Jug and Mug General Meeting. All-seasons activity club for singles. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Tripper's Sports Bar, 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing. (517) 342-9955, jugandmug.org.

Senior Discovery at ANC. Officer Garrett Hamilton with "Eastside Updates" 10 a.m.-noon FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

Spring Paper Flowers. All ages make a bouquet of paper flowers. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing.

ICACS Whisker Wednesday. Pet adoptions. All animals spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. Noon to 6 p.m. Ingham County Animal Control, 600 Curtis St., Mason. (517) 676-8370.

Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Vietnamese Buddhist Temple, 3015 S. Washington St., Lansing. (517) 351-5866, lamc.info.



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Special Kindergarten Round Up Enrollment Event
Tuesday, April 19, 2016 from 9-10 am and 4:15-6 pm in the MMLA Gym

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 21

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 21

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BLOOM COFFEE ROASTERS / FIRE MOUNTAIN

Courtesy Photo

Jared Field, co-founder of Bloom Coffee Roasters, checks on a batch of coffee beans.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

The slow-pour coffee trend continues to heat up locally, with the opening of yet another café dedicated to individually crafted cups of Joe slated to open next month. Old Town-based **Bloom Coffee Roasters** has been roasting and distributing coffee beans for just about two years, but next month the business, co-founded by Jared Field and Cameron Russell, will expand into a full-service café at 1236-B Turner St. Field cites a miserable job market for journalism (touché) as the impetus for launching Bloom.

"The Monday after I graduated with a degree in journalism, I read that the Chicago Tribune had just laid off 300 employees," Field said. "I realized I had to find a new employment route."

Field applied for a variety of jobs around the state, finally accepting a packaging position at a Kalamazoo coffeehouse. The café's roast master was let go shortly after Field came on board, so he took a shot at the new job opening.

"I fell in love with roasting and the art of coffee immediately," he said. "The smells, the science behind roasting and brewing and the endless knowledge of an ever-evolving industry really inspired me. I treated the position less like a job and more like a lifestyle."

Field said he realized the craft coffee business was a viable solo venture after attending Chicago's annual Coffee Fest trade show. He liked the friendly nature of the industry and the accessibility to equipment and information. After initially setting up shop in

REO Town, Bloom moved to Old Town when a prime location opened up on Turner Street, just a few doors north of barbecue hotspot Meat.

"The idea to open a café came pretty quickly," Field said. "It was always a dream of mine to open a café, but we didn't realize that it would happen so soon in the life of our company."

The business roasts about 150 to 200 pounds of beans per week, sourcing the beans from Colombia, Mexico, Ethiopia, Burundi, Kenya and Sumatra. The 1,000-square-foot space is still undergoing the transformation from a manufacturing space into a sit-down coffee shop. Field estimates the café will have about 30 seats and will feature two pour-over methods: the Hario V60, which brews one cup at a time, and Chemex carafe system, which is good for multiple people to share.

"People are very willing to wait and make sure that their barista is taking every step possible to make sure it's a delicious cup," Field said. "There's a significant difference in a cup that's brewed from a Keurig and a cup that's been brewed in a pour-over brewer. It takes a while for your palate to trigger this realization, but once you drink enough specialty brewed coffee, there's really no going back."

The menu will start with the basics: lattes, Americanos, macchiatos and cappuccinos. Those will be supplemented by pastries from Williamston's **Groovy Donuts**, with additional vendors expected to be added later. The vision, Field said, is to create a

comfortable work and relaxation space.

"The café will be a place that people can consider a second home, a getaway," he said. "We'll always have great music playing and we'll be ready to field questions and conversations."

Locally, Bloom coffee beans are sold in **Foods For Living**, **Old Town General Store** and **Monticello's Market**. It will also be on the shelves at the new **Whole Foods** in East Lansing. Additionally, **Black Cat Bistro** in East Lansing, **Mark's Place** in Eaton Rapids and the **Cosmos** in Old Town have the coffee on their menus.

"For the better part of the last century, America has been okay with the fact that coffee was just supposed to wake you up and get you through your workday," Field said. "But isn't it much better when the cup is deliciously enjoyable? I think so."

Fire extinguished

Fire Mountain in west Lansing has closed, and an online auction will be held until 3 p.m. today to sell its assets, including kitchen equipment, furniture and décor. This follows the news earlier this week that the restaurant's parent company, Texas-based Buffets LLC, had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. The auction will be held online at auctionnation.com.

Bloom Coffee Roasters

1236-B Turner St., Lansing
(projected hours) 7 a.m.-5:30p.m. daily
(517) 489-4046, bloomroasters.com



Allan I. Ross/City Pulse

Bloom Coffee Roasters in Old Town will expand into a full-service café sometime next month. The business roasts about 200 pounds of coffee beans per month.



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TOP FIVE DINING GUIDE!

Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2015 Top of the Town contest, we've assembled a guide to your favorite Lansing-area eateries. We'll run single categories in the paper periodically, but the complete dining guide is always available on our website or on our official mobile app, *The Pulse*. The app is available on iPhone and Android platforms; head over to facebook.com/lansingapp or text "pulse" to 77948 for links to download. Bon appétit!

TOP 5 GOURMET RESTAURANT

#1 SOUP SPOON CAFE

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(517) 316-2377, soupspooncafe.com
7 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 7 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday; 8 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday

#2 CAPITAL PRIME STEAKS AND SEAFOOD

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2324 Showtime Drive, Lansing.
(517) 377-7463, capitalprimelansing.com
11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11:30 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday; 2-9 p.m. Sunday

#3 DUSTY'S WINE BAR

Known for its gourmet options and extensive wine list
1839 Grand River Ave., Okemos.
(517) 349-8680, dustyscellar.com

11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday

#4 ENGLISH INN

Fine dining restaurant known for its gorgeous location on the Grand River
677 S. Michigan Road, Eaton Rapids
(517) 663-2500, englishinn.com
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. & 5-8:30 p.m. Monday-

Thursday; 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. & 5-9:30 p.m. Friday; 5-9:30 p.m. Saturday; 1-7 p.m. Sunday

#5 RED HAVEN

Upscale farm-to-table restaurant featuring adventurous cuisine and sleek design
4480 Hagadorn Road, Suite 103
(517) 679-6309, eatredhaven.com
11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. & 5 p.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. & 5 p.m.-10 p.m. Friday; 5-10 p.m. Saturday; 5-8:30 p.m. Sunday; closed Monday

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Northern Poutine — Nomad Kitchen



Nomad Kitchen

(Inside the Avenue Café)
3 p.m.-11 p.m.
Monday-Saturday,
closed Sunday
2012 E. Michigan
Ave., Lansing
facebook.com/
lansingnomadkitchen

We seem to be living in an age where everything that's old is new again. For proof, look no further than your local cinema, where almost every other film is a "reimagined" take on some cinematic chestnut. One look at the marquee makes you wonder just how long it will be before we're going to be treated to



an urban, gritty remake of "Singin' in the Rain" starring Channing Tatum.

Restaurants are following suit, taking classic dishes and putting modern twists on them. But some, like myself, still prefer the classics. Whether we're talking food or film, a flashy new version isn't

always necessary. The classics are classic for a reason.

The Nomad Kitchen inside the Avenue Café respects those of us with a more traditionalist palette with its Northern Poutine. For those not familiar with the Canadian favorite, poutine is typically a mountain of fries topped with cheese curds and covered in gravy. Nomad Kitchen embraces the recipe's simplicity and delivers a generous portion of the gooey concoction prepared to absolute perfection — all for a mere \$6.

That's not say Nomad's chef, Rick Sauer, ties himself completely to tradition. The kitchen also offers up a variety of other versions of poutine, ranging from a Western Poutine featuring bacon jam and bourbon pickled jalapeños to a vegan Eastern Poutine featuring kimchi and Nomad sauce, a creamy and savory house-made spread. The traditionalist in me begrudgingly admits that both of these inventive versions are excellent.

What's your favorite dish?

Do you have a go-to dish at your favorite local restaurant? We want to know about it. Email your favorite dish and a short explanation about why you love it to food@lansingcitypulse.com, and it may be featured in a future issue. If possible, please send a photo along with your description — a nice smartphone photo is fine. Cheers!

There isn't a single item on Nomad Kitchen's menu that will set you back more than \$10, so you may as well check out one of their delicious and creative burger options while you're there.

— Jonathan Griffith

Appetizers

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eastsidefishfry.com

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THE GREEN REPORT



STEVE GREEN

the Capitol Building. I visited the shop for the first time in December, on recommendation of a friend. With last week's frigid temperatures, my back was having muscle spasms, and I decided to revisit the shop in search of a good strain for relief.

The parking lot entrance is on Kalamazoo Street, just west of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. We pulled in and found a handful of parking spaces.

Review

I walked up the handicap ramp to a locked door and rang the door buzzer. I heard the door unlock, and then I was welcomed in and asked to

Capital Meds

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show my medical marijuana card and ID. There was just one patient ahead of me in the Green Room. The waiting room was clean in appearance and smell, there was ample seating and the friendly door guy chatted with me for a minute. As I waited, two more patients arrived, and I saw the same procedure at the door with each of them.

After a few minutes, it was my turn to enter the Green Room. On the way back, I noticed a room connected to the waiting room where the shop sold art, glass pipes and other paraphernalia. I continued down a hallway, where I was greeted by the budtender. The shop carries nearly 20

strains at four price tiers. I discussed a few of the strains with the budtender, and she suggested a few that I might want to try.

After smelling several jars, I settled on three strains she had recommended: Strawberry Cough, for \$12 per gram; Kosher Tangie, a \$15-per-gram top shelf strain; and Bubble Gum, a budget strain at \$15 for two grams. I noticed that the shop offers several types of extracts, including shatter and Rick Simpson Oil, as well as rare finds like keif pucks and decarbed butane hash oil in oral syringes. I asked several questions of the budtender, and she confidently answered everything. The butane hash oil was priced at \$40 and boasts an 80 percent THC content. The Rick Simpson Oil was budget-priced at \$20 per gram. The shop does not skimp on the edibles either, offering gummies, hard candy, candy bars, truffles and even marijuana-infused lemonade. I was impressed, and I'll certainly be returning to this shop to sample some of those options.

I could not wait to try the Kosher Tangie. This beautiful bud had a sweet smell, and it was a great smoke. As I was breaking it up, I could really smell the bud's complex terpene profile with sweet undertones. I lit it up, and I felt some effects after just a couple hits. It provided a clear-headed and uplifting high, while also helping my appetite, relieving muscle spasms and easing pain.

Next up was the Strawberry Cough, which is one of my personal favorites. Strawberry Cough smells like a field of strawberries. (The second half of its name refers to the bud's lung expansion, which causes many smokers to cough.) This flower burned well, leaving a clean, white ash. The buds were small in size but large in effect. The nugs were green with orange hairs, and the strawberry flavor was on point. This strain helped with my mood, relieving me anxiety and boosting my creativity.



Steve Green/City Pulse

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